

RECORDING · THE · ELECTRICAL · ERA

VOL. XXX

WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER, 1931

NO. 10



By Ewing Galloway, New York

There is no substitute for a job

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Many a middle aged man builds his fortune—
Many an old man lives in comfort—*

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Washington, D. C.

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Contents

	Page
There Is No Substitute for a Job	507
Comment By President Broach	510
Selling a Real Housewiring Job	513
Bankers Begin to Fear Public Whip	514
Slichter's Book Marks New Era in Economics	515
Boulder Dam Runs Usual Open-Shop Course	516
Labor and National Scientific Planning	517
Black Fog of Unemployment Illuminated	518
Mask of Competition Dropped by A. T. & T.	520
Employee Stock Ownership Dimmed	521
Can't Tote Dollar Bills in Breech-Cloths	522
A. F. of L. Meets at Crucial Moment	523
Gentle Art of Making Up Opponent's Mind	524
Green Answers Fisher on Wage-Cuts	525
Skill of Members Solves Vexing Problem	526
Council Endorses Cooperative Work Plan	527
Editorial	528
Woman's Work	530
Constructive Hints	532
Radio	533
Everyday Science	534
On Every Job	536
Correspondence	537
In Memoriam	551
Local Union Official Receipts	559

Magazine Chat

The Tacoma Labor Advocate raises anew the question, "Where are labor novels?" It is a quest which has taken us far, and worn out many a pair of imaginary shoes.

"Labor makes very little appeal somehow," says the anonymous observer of the Labor Advocate, "to the average fiction writer. While here or there a psychological study from among country or city folk may be the theme of a striking story, few have attempted any intrusions of the dynamic field which the labor or kindred movements seem to offer."

True. We have tried to repair this breach in this Journal, not without success. Several stories of real merit have been written by men on the job.

The shrewd critic continues: "The observed attraction which subjects removed from labor's daily work have for working people is notable on the stage, in the magazines, in the movies. They crash the gate to study the various doings of some 'It' girl who fools millionaires or the gold-digger that finds fame and fortune in enchanting some rich fool."

Isn't this the heart of the matter? The times are against labor fiction. Men—even working men—prefer literature of escape, to reality.

Anthony Duvelsdorf, Local Union No. 3, believes that much could be gained if a certificate could be issued on all union-built homes, like the sterling mark on silver. The idea has been of course proposed before, but this does not lessen its merit. Some unions already have a label on electrical work of this kind. Duvelsdorf's proposal deserves consideration.



NEW ST. PAUL CITY HALL AND COURT HOUSE

The Pioneer City Adopts the Modernistic Style For Its New Municipal Hall. This City Has Many New and Artistic Edifices to Its Credit





THE JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS & OPERATORS

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Vol. XXX

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No. 10

There Is No Substitute For A Job

A CONTINENT-WIDE campaign has been launched to relieve unemployment in the electrical construction industry.

Details have been worked out, and the machinery set in motion to mobilize goodwill in 600 separate communities, including the largest industrial centers, in the United States and Canada.

The campaign, designated as the Co-operative Work Plan, has the endorsement of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and the Electrical Guild of North America. It is expected to get the tacit or full public endorsement of every other element in the electrical and construction industries, including central station groups, banking and real estate groups, central labor unions, electrical manufacturing groups, and the building section of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

The idea behind the Co-operative Work Plan is described as simple. Instead of waiting for the automatic return of the construction business, the goodwill of each community will be mobilized, to develop an unworked market, namely, rewiring, remodeling, and modernization. It is estimated that 19,000,000 homes in the United States alone are without adequate wiring. Health, property, and convenience are menaced by old-fashioned wiring.

Electric Age Appears

The arrival of a real electric age, with electric households, is delayed by wiring systems which were conceived and installed at a time when electricity was used only for lighting. Now electricity can be used for every household convenience and task—

Cooking systems
Heating systems
Cooling systems
Laundry equipment
Vacuum cleaners
Kitchen appliances
Furnace blowers
Burglar protection
Water heaters
Ventilating systems
Automatic door openers
Piano and organ players
Humidifiers
Radio
Television
Fans
Doorbells
Sun lamps

Continent-wide campaign in United States and Canada launched by electrical workers and their employers, to relieve unemployment. Service to be exchanged for goodwill. Charity tabooed. Local communities to be asked to back plan. To stimulate entire electrical industry. Watched by all of North America. Success of campaign depends on whole-hearted co-operation of those interested, and to be benefited.

Ironers
Electric logs
Refrigerators
Clocks
Work benches
Pilot lights
Phonographs
Home Movies

About 98 per cent of the homes, apartments and small buildings are computed to be inadequately wired. This vast field is estimated to represent \$1,900,000,000. If 50 per cent of this work were done this year, there would be no unemployment in the electrical construction industry. If 25 per cent were done, there would be little unemployment among electrical workers.

The sponsors of the Co-operative Work Plan believe that much depends upon mobilizing goodwill in every city where the campaign is begun. Churches, lodges, veterans' organizations, newspapers, will be asked to forward the project. All organized labor will be asked to help. The idea of service will be stressed. Charity will not be asked. But the pressing need of communities doing something for the unemployed immediately will be emphasized.

Efforts will be used to show that a job has social and health value. No form of unemployment relief can take its place. A man with a job is self-reliant, self-respecting—a good citizen. Any kind of charity, however much needed, and however it is deserved, cannot do

as much for a man as work—in his own trade.

The value to the community of re-wiring will be fully brought out. House-owners will be shown the danger in antiquated wiring—danger to both life and property. They will be taught the convenience of complete wiring service. Happier homes will result.

Affects All

The sponsors of the Co-operative Work Plan believe that any movement for modernization of wiring may properly be called a community movement. Just as construction of any kind stimulates many related industries, so electrical construction stimulates every branch, not only of the electrical industry, but of every section of the building business. Central stations benefit; electrical appliance men; real estate and banking interests; hardware men, trucking groups, electricians and electrical contractors, and last, grocers, clothiers, and every other business man.

The responsibility of arousing a community to the need of jobs—now; of organizing the campaign; of driving forward to a successful conclusion rests with local unions of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, and with their employers.

The economic and civic side of the campaign is set forth by the sponsors:

1. **Credit.** The slump in building, the pivotal industry, is not caused by a failure of markets, but by a failure of credit. The problem is to get money into construction. Hence two proposals: Reform of the banking system, and huge loans for public works. While waiting for big projects, the Co-operative Work Plan undertakes to get the same results by getting hundreds of thousands of small jobs started. This will put money to work in a basic field.

2. **Goodwill.** The character of the electrical construction industry is such that a pick-up here will stimulate related industries in every community.

3. **Self-Interest.** House owners are asked to do nothing contrary to their self-interest. Every wiring, remodeling and modernization job will increase convenience, comfort and happiness. Guaranteed materials and excellent workmanship make the investment lasting.

4. **Municipal Aid.** It is believed city governments will co-operate. Where antiquated jobs fail to conform to modern standards city inspectors may require

re-wirings in order to lessen fire hazards.

5. **Finance.** Easy payments have been advocated. House owners will be allowed to make monthly payments.

6. **Enlightened Policy.** The campaign is not without its idealistic side. Men who contribute to the community, who own homes, raise their families, pay taxes, work for the community, are to be helped in the wisest manner possible—by providing jobs.

The plan was brought before the Executive Council of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers during its September meeting. There was full attendance. Discussion ensued for nearly a week. Light was thrown upon the question from all angles. It was seen that latent power lay in 600 local unions of the organization. The market was analyzed. The council voted unanimously to endorse the plan. The minutes of the council declare:

"The chairman brought before the council the situation confronting our membership on account of the business depression, and outlined a plan for consideration and action, which possibly might provide greater working opportunity for the membership. After full consideration of suggested plan, it was moved and seconded, that it be submitted to the general membership, together with a recommendation urging that every effort be put forth to obtain the co-operation of the membership in placing the plan in operation. Motion carried."

Immediately Secretary Bugniazet addressed a letter to all local unions, setting forth the gist of the plan and asking for co-operation.

In the meantime, the executive committee of the Electrical Guild of North America met in session. It voted to mobilize its sections in large industrial centers in the campaign. The Guild, composed of influential employers, also determined to aid all union employers in any center, who, and when, they decide to co-operate with local unions in the Co-operative Work Plan. The Guild will give full co-operation.

Secretary's Letter

Secretary Bugniazet's letter to local unions outlines the scheme:

"Washington, D. C.,
"September 23, 1931.

"All Local Unions:

"Greetings: This is one of the most important letters ever sent you by the International Office. A plan to get more work for your members is the idea inspiring the letter.

"The plan can be called a Co-operative Work Plan, because it involves the working together of members of this organization with union employers and others interested in the electrical industry,

such as central station companies distributing electrical energy, electrical equipment distributors, house owners, and other consumers of electric energy.

"Every citizen of this country and Canada realizes the serious business depression and the aggravated condition of unemployment. There is no subject more widely discussed, and, too, there is no cause more important than the matter of providing helpfulness to those who are unemployed.

"The members of the Brotherhood, like all other good citizens, prefer the independence of earning their own livelihood to the dependence of being sustained through the various charitable forms of relief or benefits from other sources.

"United Effort to Open New Markets

"The main idea of the plan is to get the inadequately wired homes, business houses and other properties re-wired and extended, and to make it easy for owners to pay for the job. In the domestic field alone, it is authentically estimated that there are 19,000,000 more or less poorly wired homes in the United States and Canada. The same applies in proportion to business houses, stores, apartment buildings, etc.

"There are many details and angles to this plan, which space precludes outlining in detail in this letter. This will be more fully set forth in booklets which will be furnished to local unions. Briefly, this letter has two purposes:

"1. To enlist the union as a sales manager in co-operating with others interested in the campaign;

"2. To get you, as one of the first important steps, to fill out the accompanying slip, giving us the names and addresses of all union contractors in your city. **This is important.**

"In addition to the booklet, the official JOURNAL will carry material relating to the plan.

"It is admitted by thoughtful people who have given any study to the present world-wide business depression, that there has been too much talk and too little action. Action is the fundamental requirement in connection with this plan, and we are seeking to enlist your loyalty, energy and common sense in relieving this distressful situation.

"Utilizes Energy and Talent of Our Members

"Experience has shown us that competent journeymen electricians are as well qualified as anyone else to give advice to property owners, incidental to electrical extensions, and modern installation, that such property owners may get the best use of new electrical equipment and devices.

"There are very few members of the Brotherhood who would not have ac-

quaintances or friends who are prospective customers, and if each active member of the Brotherhood would bring in, through voluntary salesmanship, to the co-operative committee to be established between the union and employers, work representing five days' labor per month, it is not a difficult mathematical problem to determine the advantage and helpfulness that would result, and the more adequate relief that could be provided the general membership of each local union.

"In addition to the working opportunities, it would mean sales of material and equipment, and business for fair union employers.

"It should also be kept in mind that every piece of electrical equipment installed means added output of power, which is, in turn, helpful to the outside electrical workers employed by power companies.

"Plainly stated, this is an invitation to co-operate! The cost of new work is cheaper now than for many years past—this, because of the low price of materials. Pointing this out to home owners and business houses is bound to encourage and stimulate business, which in turn provides working opportunities.

"Demands Sensible Co-operation

"We are conscious of the fact that the plan is not a complete solution for unemployment. We are also conscious of the fact that no perfect plan can be offered by the Brotherhood or any others interested, as perfection has never yet entered into the activities of mankind. Therefore, it should be kept in mind that all new plans are experiments, and are improved from time to time as a result of experience, and we appeal to all members of the organization to use sense and not prejudice in considering this matter.

"We are conscious of the fact that many members entertain dislike for some employers. Personal feelings are not important. The common good is important. Sensible members will submerge their personal feelings and wholeheartedly co-operate to make the plan a success. Those who fail to co-operate can blame no one for lack of results but themselves.

"Fraternal yours,

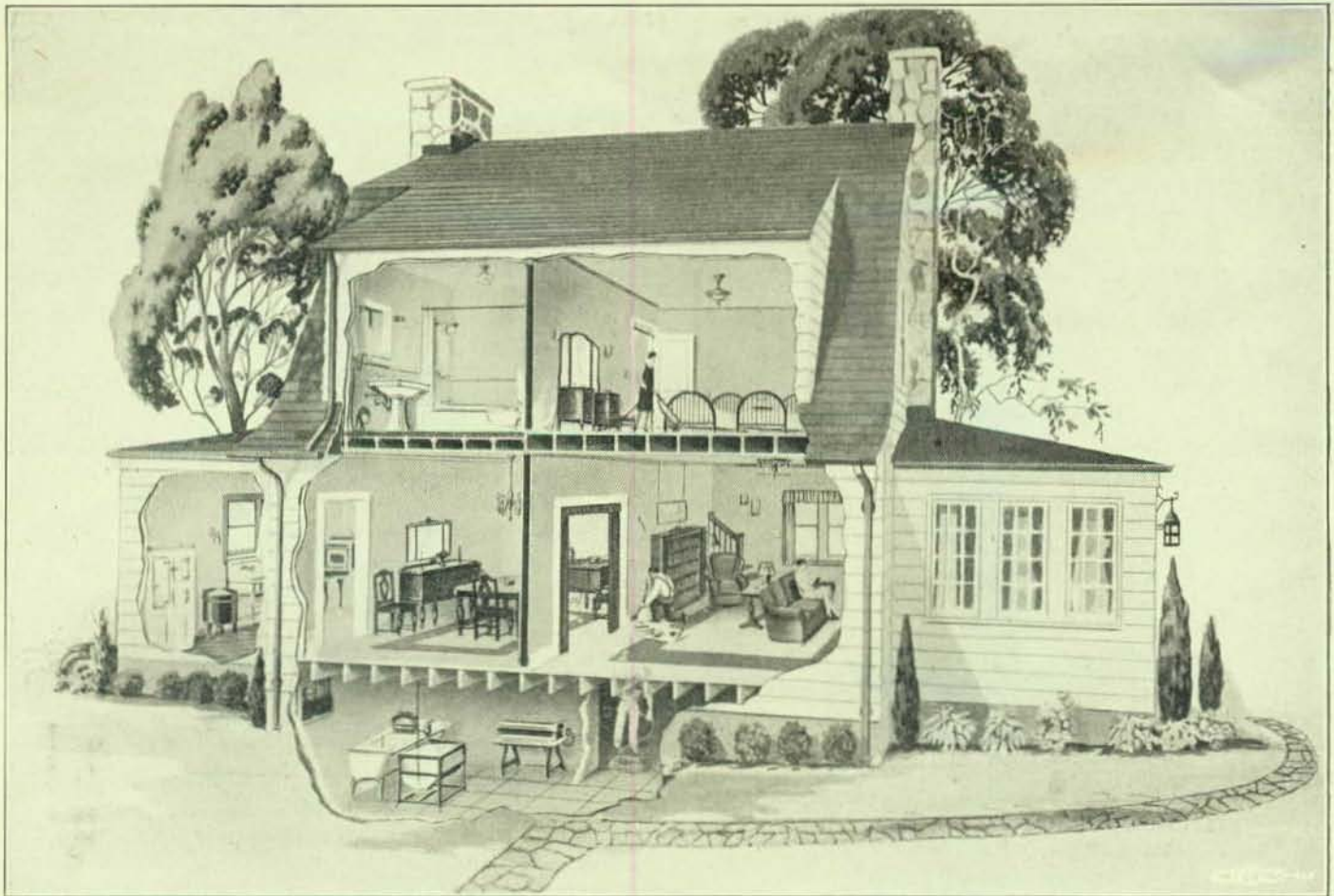
"G. M. BUGNIAZET,

"International Secretary.

"P. S. Be kind enough to fill out the enclosed slip at once. A booklet describing the plan will be sent you on receipt of the enclosed slip properly filled out."

A large edition of an attractive booklet entitled "Co-operative Work Plan Handbook", was published by the International Office. This is rapidly being sent to all co-operating local unions. It succinctly outlines the plan, tells what to do, and seeks to synchronize the oper-

Best Answer to Depression is a Job



CROSS SECTION OF A HAPPY HOME—A WELL-WIRED HOME

Danger Lurks in Faulty Wiring. Domestic Accidents Are Mounting Due to Cheap Electrical Materials. It Is no Mere Talk to Declare That Happiness, Comfort, Convenience and Safety Depend on Wiring of Approved Workmanship and Materials.

ations on a big scale of the continent-wide project. The Handbook discusses the following topics:

- I. What the Co-operation Work Plan Is.
- II. Can It Be Done?
- III. Taking the First Steps in the Campaign.
- IV. Organizing the Sales Campaign.
- V. Concrete Suggestions for Union Salesmen.
- VI. Job Breakdown.

The booklet lists six values the union is expected to gain from the plan:

1. Work when it is greatly needed.
2. Action instead of painful inaction in a time of pessimism.
3. Another chance to prove that the union is a positive, vital, constructive force in the community and nation.
4. A new opportunity to cement the bonds of co-operation between it and union employers.
5. Worth-while action in a time of doubt.
6. A better morale in the organization.

The Right Spirit

There was a union electrician working in our office yesterday—an industrious, capable, likeable fellow. When we saw him “knock off” early in the afternoon, we inquired as to the reason.

“You see,” he replied, “we electrical workers go on a six-hour-day basis today. All over the country today, members of our union take a cut in the number of hours they work and in the number of dollars they get a week, so there’ll be some chance for the fellows who are out of work. This new system will give jobs to about 100 more men in Westchester County alone. Think what it will do for men of our trade all over the country—it’ll give thousands of them a chance to make a living.”

“Isn’t that a little unusual—we thought all mechanics worked on the basis of each man getting all he could out of a job, leaving every other man take care of himself,” we inquired.

“Well, I suppose a good many men do look at it that way—but the great majority of American fellows in our trade are pretty decent and pretty willing to

do their share to help another lad along. I know that when this order for the six-hour day was sent out from our International Headquarters, there was no real grumbling about it among the union electricians in Port Chester. Personally, I’ll feel a lot better about getting enough to get along on, and letting some other man have enough to get along on, too, than if I knew I was getting it all and he was getting nothing,” our friend observed.

And that man’s attitude is more than the expression of an individual—it is typical of the attitude of practically all organized labor in Port Chester and vicinity. In the course of the years, we here have had many demonstrations of that very same sort of thing—which is why we have had a minimum of strikes and a high degree of industrious prosperity among our “working men.” It’s the right spirit—the American spirit—the spirit which assures us, as a community, of ultimate victory over any sort of economic depression. It’s evidence of sound intelligence.

The electrical workers are to be congratulated.—Port Chester Daily Item.

Build a New Market with Co-operation

COMMENT

BY

PRESIDENT BROACH

THIS is written on the Pacific coast. Out here union conditions used to prevail with light, power and telephone companies. But, sadly, we then had no discipline, no management, no centralized authority. So the agreements and conditions with most all of these utilities were soon destroyed by the very men who established them.

"It was well to adopt strict laws governing procedure and also clothing the officers with greater power, so that instead of coaxing irresponsibles to be good, officers can order them to be—or else penalize them by suspending them from attendance or any other form of punishment that seems best. We cannot have too much discipline."

Here are a few typical cases of the "wild" days of 15 years ago, related by an officer of the old Pacific District Council:

"In San Francisco, a floater named Charley Potter, had a row with his foreman, left the job and went around the gangs and succeeded in pulling nearly all of them out on strike. He then left for New Orleans.

"One Sunday a special meeting was held in San Francisco to attend the funeral of our president, P. A. Peterson. Without any preliminary notice or discussion a motion was made to strike. A satisfactory agreement existed with the company—but the motion carried by two votes and the strike took place. The agreement was broken. This involved other local unions on the Pacific coast covered by the agreement.

"In Everett, Wash., Barney Higgins and Slivers Alexander got the local union to call a special meeting and struck the same day. No particular reasons were given. They just felt like pulling a strike.

"I have told you only a few of the irregular strikes called by linemen. Some gabby floater with a few drunken supporters was able to stampede meetings. All unions contain a certain percentage of windjammers and brainless boobs who applaud them. We all know how much more enthusiasm is shown for a senseless, radical talk than for a sane, reasonable one.

One executive of a western corporation, speaking of the past said, "We never knew the morning after a union meeting whether we would have any men at work or not. About three times a month, when no one reported, I would phone union headquarters and ask: 'What the hell is wrong now?'"

And what a bitter price is now being paid. Many union conditions gone—many outside local unions shot to pieces—and worst of all, the reputation of the entire organization greatly damaged. Company executives do not soon forget. So, many of our unions must suffer for the shameful, disgusting past. The past must be lived down and confidence restored.

Twenty-one months ago we wrote:

"I look upon the labor union as a business. It must be set up as a business, managed and run as a business * * * You can't operate any business with 1,000 bosses * * * Delegated powers are more efficient than town meetings * * * There must be no hair splitting or quibbling * * * Men once giving their word must keep it. Excuses cannot be accepted."

Happily, we find a real desire today on the Pacific coast to build constructively and to estab-

lish lasting confidence. Our young Vice President, H. P. Brigaerts—with his staff—is doing excellent work. He related this incident:

"At one meeting I attended, a member condemned our revised Constitution. 'We might just as well adjourn for a year,' said the member. 'All local autonomy is now taken away from us. We can't do anything without the International's permission.' I asked just what was wrong. 'Plenty!' I then asked if he had read and studied our new Constitution. He replied, 'How do I know what parts are wrong? I have never seen one.'"

San Francisco has been heralded as a non-union city—a paradise for "Open Shoppers". But we found all theatres strictly union. Drivers of taxi cabs—milk, bread and laundry wagons—all thoroughly organized. Yellow Cab drivers are 100 per cent union. It's the same with all embalmers and grave diggers. Even the garbage collectors and the fishing fleets are all organized.

Members of our inside local union do every job of any consequence in San Francisco. Even the largest Chinese electric shop in Chinatown, owned by Chinese, employs our members. All electrical workers for the city and state—including inspectors, police and fire alarm operators—belong to our organization. Good standards prevail. A splendid electrical ordinance exists. No flexible cable—or "B. X."—is used. Flexible conduit—or "Greenfield"—is limited to small alterations.

A union representative recently lost his position. He blamed his enemies. He hammered others. But that's babyish. It's poor sportsmanship. When a man blames others for his setbacks or failures it's usually because he doesn't try to see himself—or he refuses to admit truths to himself—or he hopes to excuse his conduct or weaknesses.

If a man must blame and hammer, he should work on himself. But if he must make excuses—if he must lie—then he should practice on others,

even if they don't believe him. When you make excuses to yourself—when you lie to or kid yourself—you go backwards fast. Nothing can stop you.

Just why some union representatives conduct themselves so disgustingly, is almost beyond me. Most men know what's right—what they should do—what's best for themselves and their organizations. But some simply do not seem to possess enough courage to do it. Following the lines of least resistance always proves their undoing.

In the west I was considered "dry". How quickly men forget. In February, 1930, we wrote:

"No, I'm not a prohibitionist. I'm not a reformer. Neither am I a pig. I simply oppose drunkenness when there is work to do. I have seen too many situations neglected, too many minds and bodies ruined, too many unions shot to pieces, because of drunkenness. Unions have made much progress since they left the saloon. But prohibition is no cure. It's the biggest national farce we have, reeking with insincerity, dishonesty, corruption and poison. It has wrecked more homes, filled more jails, lunatic asylums and graves than any other thing, except the God of War."

A fellow in Atlanta deserted. He wrote us trying to excuse his action. He was told:

"Nothing you say—no apologies you make—no explanation you give—can justify your quitting. He who deserts his country in war is considered a traitor. He who deserts or betrays his fellows is worse. A coward won't fight. He always has excuses. He lies, cheats—and runs. Unions were not built by cowards, whiners or weaklings."

It seems necessary to repeat this, written in February, 1930:

"We have received several petitions to do certain things. Please don't waste precious time in such a foolish manner. If a thing should be done, petitions are not needed. They mean nothing. It's as easy to get people to sign petitions as it is to get them to laugh at a poor joke. They wish to be polite, agreeable, and avoid argument. In a Kansas town a man bet he could get 90 per cent of the other citizens to sign a petition to the government, to shorten the road to Tipperary. He won the bet. Ninety-seven per cent signed."

Let loose 20,000 extremists in a country where there is economic fair dealing, and they can talk until black in the face without winning converts. They would hang themselves with their tongues. But where there are great injustices, extremes of poverty and wealth—as in the old Russia—discontent spreads without extremists.

Once insurance was forbidden as gambling. But today we insure against age, accident, fire, rain, storms, loss of fingers, beautiful backs, limbs, sight. Even ships at sea are insured against "Acts of God". We insure against almost everything under the sun—except unemployment, perhaps the worst curse of all. Surely it's just as sensible—and necessary—we insure ourselves against this evil as against any other misfortune. Some day, when we have enough intelligence, when we have suffered enough—we will doubtless come to it.

Americans appear hopelessly sentimental. They are well saturated with the bunk shot at them from all directions. No matter what is needed, nothing will be done in the present crisis unless it pays. After all, it's a question of profit. Machines are put to work only when it pays. So long as the people accept our crazy speed-up system—our unequal distribution of what is produced—so long as they accept the condition that produces insane profits at the top and destitution at the bottom—then they must expect these re-

occurring periods of stagnation, suffering and misery.

We must face this fact: We have weak unions because we have ignorance and narrowness. Where ignorance and narrowness are greatest, we always find the weakest unions. We must be broad enough to admit it. In this auto age, bare hands and brute strength are not enough. Bluster and bluff do not go. It's a day of brains and understanding—of rapid change, facts, suffering and hard work.

A crowd—however high its level of intelligence—cannot get anything done as a crowd. All it can do is talk—and vote "yes" or "no". The United States Congress acts through committees, and these through sub-committees—and the sub-committees through one man. This principle holds true no matter how large or small the group. Executive power, even in legislative bodies, is vested in individuals, not in groups.

The orator is an actor. He is an artistic liar. He poses and deceives. He fakes emotions which he does not feel. He juggles stock phrases and performs mental monkey-shines. He resorts to cheap tricks, half truths, flattery and utopia-painting. By the very nature of his task, the orator must forget reason. He is a bunk-shooter supreme.

Sensible people want plain, conversational, direct speech—and no bombast. They want a speaker to get into his subject at once. They are sick of the loud, sputtering, emotional fool. You can't deceive an intelligent audience—but you can sicken it. You can't be an orator and be respected by people with good sense.

H. H. Broach

Selling A Real Housewiring Job

By JOHN KUHLEMEYER, I. O.

THE other day I was figuring a residence job for one of our local bankers. Naturally I figured on a fairly complete installation, as far as outlets and service were concerned, because I knew his wife had many parlor lamps and other appliances in her old home. The wiring in the old place simply was a mess on account of all the extra outlets that had been installed.

When I did not hear from my friend, the banker, I made it a point to drop in the bank and run across him as by accident.

During our conversation I asked him about the job, and he told me that my figure was too high; it seemed that my price was more than twice the next highest bid.

So, of course, it was up to me to do some tall explaining. I asked him if he had compared the different proposals as to number of outlets and service capacity.

He had not done so; the architect had marked all the outlets on the plans and furthermore everything was fully covered by the specifications; and furthermore, being a member of the Village Board, he knew that the inspector would see to it that his job would be a real first class job. No, sir, he was not to be taken for Santa Claus.

Points Out Differences

As soon as I got my temper under control and could talk without using too much profanity, I asked Mr. Banker a few questions.

I asked him how many rooms he had in his old residence; he told me eight. Then I asked him how many rooms he was going to have in his new place; he told me 12. Fine. Now I asked him how many outlets he had in his old house; he did not know. So I told him 48, of which 26 were additional outlets, mostly installed by us during the last three years, and I told him that the new place called for 52 outlets as per plans and specifications.

By this time he began to show some interest, and I pulled out the layout I had made for him, and started in to show him where I had put all the additional outlets and why.

When finally he commenced to see the light, I asked him if in his opinion all the stocks and bonds that were sold to the people were of the same value, or if they were of different prices and different values.

Of course my ignorant question was amusing and he told me that there were good, bad and indifferent bonds and stocks.

Next I asked him if it was not a fact that we had some very good state laws to protect the people against fraud and fake stocks and bonds. Sure we had some very good laws for that purpose

Member outlines experiences in selling banker a first-rate wiring job. This will interest every member in view of present campaign against unemployment.

and these laws were a good thing for the protection of the people.

I was leading him into a nice trap, but he did not realize it yet. But he had it coming to him for mentioning that inspection thing to me.

No Substitute for Good Work

Then I asked him if he would buy or recommend any and all securities that were sold in our state and were within the law. He laughed and said, "Of course not." In spite of all the laws we can set up, there are a great many securities that he could not conscientiously recommend as a banker to his customers—laws could only prevent the glaring defects or downright dishonesty. I asked him what he thought of government bonds as a real safe investment when they could be purchased at a reasonable price. Ah, now I was talking; that was the kind of security that always gladdens the heart of any banker, and any banker would like to have his vaults full of that kind of paper.

So I told him that in the electrical business we were confronted with the same trouble; a lot of securities that looked all right and had high sounding names were not so very fine after all, and many people who thought they had bought at a great bargain were later on disappointed when they discovered the poor policy of trying to get something for nothing, and not listening to the advice of their banker.

"Now in our business," I told him, "we are often tempted by a little better price, or a little extra discount to take a chance, or, like some contractors, use any old material or do any old job; anything to get by the architect or the local inspector. They make no bones about it. If it is price you want, they give you a price. 'Why not?' they say. 'If that is what the buyer wants, give it to him."

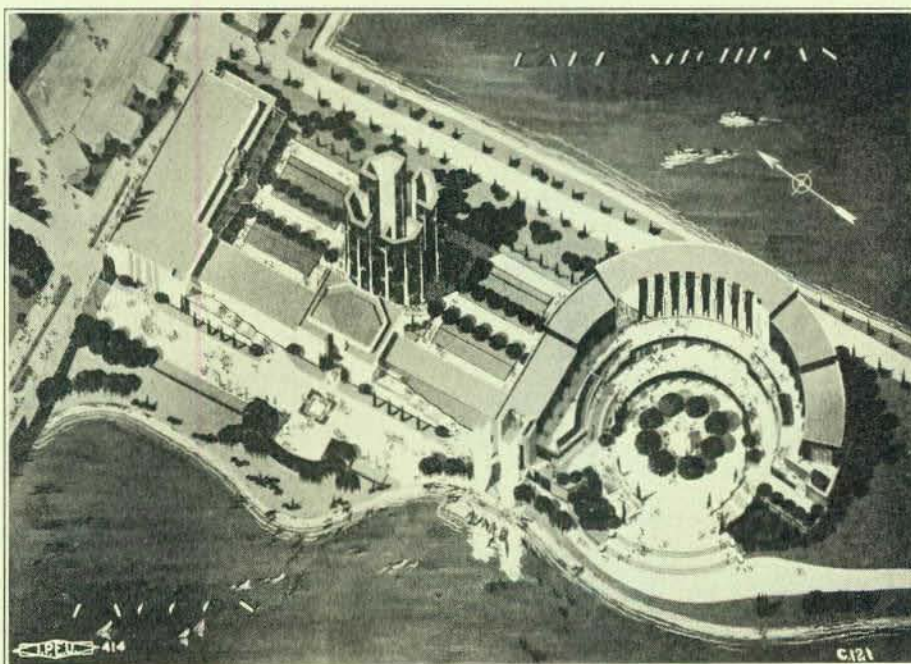
"Inspection alone will not give you the job you have a right to expect; local inspection is only the lowest standard permissible. Inspection does not call for a complete or even an adequate electrical installation.

Like Blue-Sky Laws

"The inspection rules were not written with the residence of a banker in mind; the rules are simply the blue-sky laws of the electrical business.

"Your present plans, or the inspection rules, do not call for these closet lights we just recently installed in your

(Continued on page 558)



NEW ELECTRICAL GROUP

Ground Has Been Broken on the Electrical Group, Designed by Raymond Hood, of New York, and the Fifth Structure of Chicago's 1933 World's Fair. It Will House the Exhibits of Electricity, Telephone, Telegraph and Radio; Will be 1,200 by 300 Feet, Two Stories High and of Striking Modernist Design. Steel and Special Wallboard Will Form the Exterior. White, Yellow, Red, Black and Blue Will Be the Dominant Colors. The Structure Will Be Embellished With Hanging Gardens and Paved Terraces. It Will Be Located on Northerly (Adler Planetarium) Island, South of Sixteenth Street.

Bankers Begin to Fear Public Whip

CONSIDER the plight of Senator Simeon Fess, high in the councils of the Republican party. He wished to build a house this summer, and sought a loan of only \$6,000 from his banker. His banker was polite, and firm. "We are solvent, of course, but we are not making any loans just now. We must keep solvent". Senator Fess was amazed. He sought to draw out sufficient funds from building and loan associations and met with distressing difficulties. He returned to Washington in an irritable frame of mind. Senator Fess attributed the distressing state of affairs to the depression, but there is evidence that certain of his colleagues believe the banking system could be improved. Questionnaires circulated in Wall Street by Senators are disturbing the equanimity of men who think in billions.

Senator Fess' experience is ordinary. Business men find they can not get money to remodel their factories. Money is scarce—very, very scarce. It has taken to cover.

It is all very strange, too. There is now, it is estimated, \$5,000,000,000 in gold in the United States. If the usual laws of credit applied to this situation, about \$50,000,000,000 of credit would be released as a result of the gold surplus. Instead, credit is tight. There is no money for necessary functions of the business system. In short, the credit system has broken down.

Business Handicapped

The Magazine of Wall Street describes the situation graphically:

"Money is easier than ever before, if we judge it by the price of short term or call funds. The banks are bulging with it. If you are a speculator, you can borrow it, through your broker, at 1½ per cent. If you are a business man or a farmer and cannot put up readily marketable collateral—try to get a loan!

"If you are a manufacturer and tell your bank you would like to have \$25,000 to use in re-tooling your factory, in order that costs may be lowered and volume of sales explained, you are likely to be reminded that times are hard, that the business outlook is doubtful and that the bank favors no such unnecessary expenditure of money.

"In some banks you will be treated as if your request for a loan constituted an assault upon the institution's solvency. The vice president, who, familiar with the details of your business, formerly extended you a line of credit on his own responsibility, will shake his head dolefully and tell you that it is now neces-

Stringency of credit, failure of building to resume, hoarding of gold, impatience of not only consumers, but business men points to control-legislation in next Congress.

sary for all loans to be passed by the board of directors.

"For example: In a large mid-western city is a furniture dealer doing a business of \$1,000,000 a year and long accustomed to a normal line of credit at his bank. But upon his recent application for a loan the bank informed him that it did not consider the future of the furniture business particularly good and hence would have to refuse credit."

In some cities, citizens are holding meetings and passing resolutions asking bankers and life insurance companies to make it easy for persons of moderate means to own their own homes.

Building Held Up

It is reported that a mail order house, which has a construction department, has not felt the depression this year, has erected many houses in various cities because it has liberal financial methods with house owners.

Certain journals of agitation are attacking bankers bitterly on the ground that they are "public enemies."

Proposals of reform hitherto made relate largely to protection of depositors caught in bank failures.

Thomas Temple Hoyne, a Chicago financial writer, says:

"The proposal has been made here to amend the Federal Reserve act so as to require each of the 12 Federal Reserve banks to guarantee the deposits of its member banks.

"The idea underlying this amendment is the ordinary theory of insurance. All of the capital of each Federal Reserve Bank is provided by its member banks

which elect two-thirds of the nine directors of the Federal Reserve Bank.

Make Some One Responsible

"To require each Federal Reserve Bank to guarantee deposits of its member banks and at the same time give it supervisory power over those member banks—as well as the examining power which it already has—would assure prompt elimination of objectionable banking methods and inefficient management if these evils crept into the operation of a member bank.

"If these evils were not corrected the Federal Reserve Bank of the district would exclude the guilty member bank from membership and order it to liquidate.

"But depositors would not have to wait to get their money. The Federal Reserve Bank would pay all deposits out of its own capital, and after receiving the assets of the liquidated bank would pro rate on all member banks of the district any loss it might have suffered by paying depositors of the liquidated bank in full."

However, real reform looks deeper than this much-needed action, namely, to make the banking system more responsive to the needs of every class.

NEW NUMBER BOARD PICKS QUICK WORKERS FROM SLOW

A simple test to sort out slow workmen from fast ones and to distinguish those who will be likely to have accidents has been perfected by Dr. Kurt Seesemann, of Mulheim, Germany, and was described at the recent meeting of the German Industrial Hygiene Society at Frankfurt-am-Main.

The only apparatus needed is a board or chart on which are printed in any random order the numbers between, for example, 1 and 50. The person being tested is told to take a pointer and to touch in succession each of the numbers in proper order; that is, 1, 2, 3, and so on. Since these numbers may be scattered over the chart in any positions, the pointer must be moved quickly from one place to another. Meanwhile the examiner notes whether all of the numbers are touched in correct order and takes the time required by reading a stopwatch.

The test selects, Dr. Seesemann claims, persons who are quick and accurate in perception from those who are slow and inaccurate. Those of quick perceptions are found, on the average, to be quick workers in factory jobs and to have relatively few accidents. Those who do the number test slowly or inaccurately usually turn out to be relatively slow and inefficient and to have more accidents than the average, probably because the time required for these individuals to co-ordinate eye, mind and hand is abnormally long.



WHERE UNCLE SAM BANKS HIS MONEY

Slichter's Book Marks New Era in Economics

THE Business Book-of-the-Month for August is a 900-page work in economics called "Modern Economic Society," by Sumner H. Slichter. Though selling for \$4.00, the first edition was exhausted within a few days, and a large second edition sent to the presses, by the publishers, Henry Holt and Company. Comprehensive works in the field of economics are not usually given such a reception. Such popular interest can be accounted for, largely by the fact that Dr. Slichter has not chosen to remain in the classroom, and make generalizations from the work of others; he has eschewed the questionable method of spinning generalizations from the left-overs of vanished economists. In his preface he says:

"The rapid development of economic life compels a constant restatement of economics. This restatement is bound to lag more or less behind the reality which it purports to describe because, by the time economists are able to discover what the new reality is, it has partly ceased to be, and a still newer reality has taken its place."

His Courage

Let it be said that in Slichter's book the lag is little apparent. The foregoing statement also suggests that dominant notes in Slichter's work—humility, passion for accuracy, and courage. He is not the kind of economist who amasses long columns of figures to prove that prohibition is not only a noble experiment, but a success; he did not rush to the support of the crashing stock exchange in 1929 with flying banners, announcing that the worst debacle in history was a temporary flurry; neither has he made himself hated and ridiculous by advocating wage cuts to cure the present depression, simply because bank presidents desire them. His work stands beyond the cavillings of the moment, even though it is factual and realistic. Slichter does not eschew "classical principles" because he is not familiar with them, but because he is so completely their master. He prefers generalizations checked by fact, and tested by the ever-growing lists of statistics gathered almost hourly. Such a work is enduring because of its method, because it points forward, not backward; because it envisions society as a changing complex, not a fixed and settled scheme.

Such an economist is not timid. He is willing to step forward and declare that "from these findings certain things should be done." This Slichter does in the not-the-least valuable and interesting chapter entitled "Some Constructive Suggestions." These will be revealed in due time.

Long chapters deal with labor:

The Organization of Labor.

The Labor Bargain—Wages as an Incentive.

The Labor Bargain—The Determination of Wages.

"Modern Economic Society" escapes from school-room. Adopts realistic investigation as tool. Discards abstract "principles" for trends. Immensely valuable as guide to machine capitalism. Labor understood and ably discussed. Suggests remedies.

The Labor Bargain—the Control of Work and Working Conditions.

Other chapters naturally and rationally concern organized labor; one on the consumer; one on the business cycle; one on machine industry, are instances.

Understands Labor

A few brief quotations from his initial chapter on labor reveal his penetrating insight:

"Now, for the first time in history, we find the manual laborers, the people who have passively done the dirty, disagreeable and dangerous work, and who have allowed other classes to guide government and industry, organizing for the purpose of exercising some conscious control of their destinies" . . .

"The extension of unionism is accomplished only by struggle, and during every period of depression, employers drive union men from many shops,

where, in prosperous times, it was tolerated. Unions will enjoy security only to the extent that they are strong enough to repel attack." . . .

"Trade unions are just as much interested in decreasing costs and in raising industrial efficiency as are the employers, but the costs in which unions are primarily interested are human costs instead of money costs, and the efficiency which they strive to promote is efficiency which is measured in terms of human costs." . . .

"Unionism prevents men from being crushed into mere obeyers of order. It gives them a chance to express themselves without fear of the management; to discuss their aspirations, their ideas, and their grievances openly, without dread of being overheard by the foreman and being disciplined. It gives them an opportunity to criticize the management, to find fault with the way the plant is run, and to talk freely as to how they think the plant should be run—in short, to express the same sort of ideas about the management of the plant that free citizens are accustomed to express about the government of industry." . . .

"It is often said that unionism of the type prevalent in the United States is essentially conservative, because it does not seek to overthrow the existing economic order but accepts the basic institutions of private property and the wage system and strives merely to substitute collective for individual bargaining. It is true that nearly all American unions are conservative in the sense that they are satisfied to proceed step by step. But examination of the changes which they are making in the government of industry indicates that they are revolutionary and, in fact, are nibbling at the very foundations of the economic order. For they contest the control of industry by property owners and assert that government in industry should rest upon the consent of the governed. But the very essence of private property is the right to make decisions, and when unions limit that right and divide it between the property owners and the workers, they are making a fundamental change in private property itself. It is a delusion to pretend that this is not revolutionary. But most revolutions are accomplished by men who know not what they do."

Eleven Changes Proposed

One who has accepted investigation as a tool, who has scanned the established system with a measured glance, who has proved his mastery of traditional "principles," should be listened to with respect, when he proposes improvements in the business system. Every one of Slichter's proposals for



SUMNER H. SLICHTER

(Continued on page 557)

Boulder Dam Runs Usual Open-shop Course

THERE is a science of industrial relations. Bungling treatment of workmen by hardboiled gang-bosses and superintendents; impossible conditions on the job; high accident rates; unsanitary living conditions—these inevitably produce strikes, violence and bitterness. It is these conditions, induced by the Six Companies, Inc., at Boulder Dam, which created a national scandal. When the heat of the summer exacted its toll, 1,400 employees rebelled, and struck, as reported in this JOURNAL.

Now the second phase of the anti-union development occurs. To offset the lack of organization at the Dam, the Six Companies, Inc., announce welfare schemes. A club house is to be erected. A pug has been hired to teach the men boxing, and to organize games after long hours of toil when it is 120 degrees in the shade.

Hurrah, Athletics!

The New Reclamation Era (official publication of the Department of the Interior) reports:

"The Six Companies (Inc.) is interested in the social welfare of its workers, as evidenced by the erection of a large clubhouse where sports and recreation of a wholesome variety may be enjoyed. Frank Moran, former heavy-weight, has been selected to take charge of the work. Mr. Moran is now engaged in acquainting himself with the men and their tastes for sports.

"The clubhouse is an L-shaped building, 96 feet long on each side of the L, 60 feet long on the inside of the L, and 36 feet wide on each end of the L. The 14-foot ceiling, 33 windows and transoms, and seven doors insure plenty of fresh air and light; and a dance floor below, together with 12 pool and billiard tables, insures amusement in the midst of the busy camp life.

"The new and commodious commissary, now in operation in the west end of the clubhouse, is equipped to dispense pop, overalls and newspapers.

"Mr. Moran's idea is to develop local, rather than imported, talent. He says: 'We want sport for sport's sake, not for the sake of commercialization. We probably will be scheduling games with Las Vegas athletes in various sports, and we expect to give them some pretty stiff competition. There are some mighty good athletes on this job, and they're keeping themselves in good trim.'

Palliation of public sentiment at this late hour will not likely be successful. Congress is expected to investigate the Boulder Dam fiasco.

The hard-boiled attitude of the Six Companies, Inc., to workmen is revealed by a report made to the International

Low wage firms seek to bolster flagging public favor with announcement of welfare schemes. Government gives publicity to the make-shift. Boxing will make men forget.

Brotherhood of Electrical Workers by a special representative:

"On Sunday, August 9, at 10 a. m., Crowe notified the committee that all activities on the dam were shut down for an indefinite period; that the pay checks of all employees were ready for them at the office, and upon receipt of which they were to vacate the reservation comprising the Hoover Dam project.

"I made daily visits to Boulder City up to and including August 12 on which date, again through the courtesy of Leonard Blood, I secured an opportunity to speak to Frank Crowe, who unlike the occasion of my previous visit in March, listened to me for over 15 minutes while I offered to be helpful by guaranteeing no further labor disputes on the project if he would deal with us collectively, to which proposal he answered: 'I have nothing to say to you at this time.'

Wages Below Scale

"Later the same day I secured an audience with Charles Shea, secretary of the Six Companies, in the office of Leonard Blood. Mr. Shea was very courteous and listened to me with apparent interest. However, his conclusions were that the Six Companies were operating open shop, and that if I could

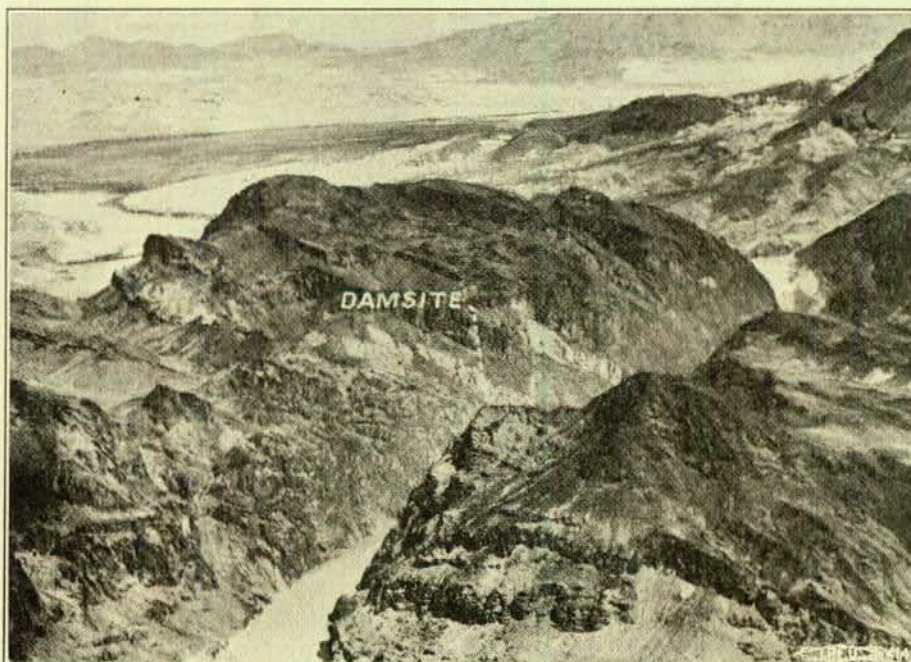
place our men to work on the project it would be all right with him. Mr. Shea attempted to justify the Six Companies' position in their low wage scale by citing comparative wages paid in various mining camps in Nevada and Arizona. When I called to his attention the fact that even the low rate of wages paid in the few isolated instances that he referred to for comparison was 32c below the average, he had nothing further to say.

"For your information may I say that the mining camps cited by Mr. Shea consist of copper mines in Kimberly, Ruth and McGill, Nevada, where the average wage scale for electricians is 32c a day higher than that paid by the Six Companies, and while the Six Companies charge their employees approximately \$45 a month for subsistence, the mining camps which Mr. Shea referred to charge their men but \$35 for board and \$1.50 per month for a room; married people are provided with comfortable three-roomed houses for \$16 per month, and four-room houses for \$18 per month, with light and water included.

Spontaneous Trouble

"Newspapers have quoted Dr. Elwood Mead of the Reclamation Service and the representatives of the Six Companies and others to the effect that the so-called strike was the result of I. W. W. agitation. It is my honest opinion, based upon constant and intimate contact with hundreds of the men employed on the Hoover Dam, that the original cause of the walkout of the 125 miners and muckers was not the result of any

(Continued on page 560)



THE RUGGED CHARACTER OF THE CANYON DISPLAYED. THE TOWN IS TO BE ERECTED ON THE BLUFF TO THE LEFT.

Labor and National Scientific Planning

THE next major struggle of American labor will be for adequate representation on planning boards or commissions. The position of labor now is not unlike its position of 10 or 15 years ago in reference to participation of labor in management. At that time, with the oncoming sweep of machine production, intelligent labor leaders saw the need of labor's sharing with management the direction of production, or the alternative of a loss of respect and prestige on the part of labor, and complete failure to take part in the creative side of industry. The proposal was met with coldness or hostility, and yet within a decade labor has proved its value on boards of management in the railroad, textile, coal, clothing, and electrical construction industries.

The movement today for centralized planning may be described as a drive for the creation of a super-staff, or a super-management group. Concrete plans to date, especially those receiving the endorsement of business and government heads, do not include within their purview labor representatives. It will therefore be labor's responsibility to prove that centralized planning can not function as well without as it can with adequate labor representation.

Important Questions Asked

With all the boasts that we have in America of an increasingly scientific production system, we know, with any degree of accuracy, but little about business. Before we can have a scientific system of centralized planning certain definite questions will have to be answered, and it is probable that the

Review of the status of movement for a planned economy in reference to labor.

only group in our economic system capable of asking these questions is the labor group. Owners and stockholders will not for they fear the loss of profits. Management can not for it is controlled by stockholders. Farmers will not because they are unorganized, and without interest in industry. Both the materialistic and social incentives are such as to force labor to ask these questions.

Just what is over-production?

Do we have it?

Or do we have only the threat of it?

Is the reality of over-production confused with a more shadowy potential over-production?

What is under-consumption?

Is desire for goods demand, or is demand desire plus purchasing power?

What part of the national income should go back into production?

What part should go into savings as reserve funds? What part into purchasing power? What part into profits and dividends?

Can mass production be extended and purchasing power at the same time maintained?

Does a disproportionate share of costs go into sales?

Is the consumer's dollar adequately budgeted?

Does an inequitable distribution of wealth affect production adversely?

Where Are We Going?

In the business system under which we operate, none of these questions have ever been answered. There is a good deal of talk about over-production and under-consumption, but no one has taken the trouble to define either. No criteria have ever been set up to determine the proper division of the income into productive capital, savings, wages and profits. Neither do the overlords of business wish to examine critically mass production, either in theory or practice.

To these fundamental questions should be added the collection of accurate data relative to industrial accidents, to unemployment, and to living costs. Centralized planning will be empty until these major questions are faced and answered, but it is not likely that any group, save a small group of economists and labor leaders, will wish to raise and face these questions. And this small group of economists have come to be known as labor economists.

The growing sentiment for national economic planning will be met by big business with the same technique with which it has met every popular demand. It will seek to give, under its own control, the semblance of the thing asked for. The committee on continuity of business and employment of the United States Chamber of Commerce has already reported favorably for a plan board. This it conceives as the proper answer to bills introduced in Congress looking toward a governmental body. The plan of the United States Chamber of Commerce makes no provision for labor representatives. The plan of the

(Continued on page 556)



Courtesy McGraw-Hill

NEW YORK'S EVER-CHANGING SKYLINE NOW INCLUDES THE NEW MCGRAW-HILL BUILDING (Left), EXAMPLE OF MODERN OFFICE-BUILDING ARCHITECTURE

Black Fog of Unemployment Illuminated

By WILLIAM HABER, Michigan State College

THE present economic depression, like all such periods of history, has produced important additions to our literature on the causes, consequences and remedies for unemployment. Many of the dozens of new volumes which have come off the printing presses in the last two years are making a distinct contribution to our understanding of the depression and in suggesting the direction in which intelligent action for relief and prevention lies.

As a result, there is probably greater public understanding of the problem of unemployment and the plight of the unemployed than at any time in the past. There is also a more general acquaintance with the methods proposed for dealing with the problem. Unemployment insurance, for example, is not only being seriously proposed to Congress and state legislatures, but several industries and over 35 employers have been experimenting with private insurance plans. In addition more Americans are beginning to see that our system of free competition and individualism needs radical modification if our complex industrial machine is to function smoothly. Thus we are beginning to listen more attentively to proposals for giving to our central banking system greater control of credit in order to slow up over-expansion of business and control our price level. Even more significant, national economic planning, the very antithesis of free competition and individualism, is receiving consideration from many quarters.

This article reviews six recent books dealing with unemployment.

The Plight of the Jobless

The profuseness of statistics on employment and production sometimes hides the human factors involved. To say that there are 7,000,000 less jobs and that production has dropped 30 per cent is one thing. But the 20,000,000 human beings who are affected, the misery, hunger, disease and hopelessness which are theirs, these are the actors on our industrial stage. What happens to the worker who loses his job has nowhere been so ably portrayed as in two recent books. "Some Folks Won't Work," by Clinch Calkins (Harcourt, Brace and Company, \$1.50), and "Case Studies of Unemployment," compiled by the Unemployment Committee of the National Federation of Settlements and edited by Marion Elderton (University of Pennsylvania Press, \$3.00), present over 300 case histories of jobless men and women, drawn from 2,300 such cases in 30 cities in 23 states. They represent workers who have lost their jobs for causes beyond their control. The despairing search for work which these volumes depict offers a final answer to those in our conservative communities who still think that unemployment is caused because "Some Folks Won't Work."

Haber is back after a tour of Mexico and views the American jobless scene with clear eye and balanced judgment.

The economic and physical effects of joblessness are not always seen by the onlooker. Losing his job, the worker first accepts broken work on similar jobs, then a steady degradation of the kind of work. Thus mechanics, cabinet makers, shoe makers and the rest drop to the ranks of dock workers, truck drivers, janitors and watchmen. Their former skills only made them misfits for manual labor. The obvious immediate effect is reduced earnings. Eventually, this results in diminished earning power. Cash and savings are used up, insurance policies lapse, jewelry and furniture are pawned, the family moves to poorer quarters, the mother goes to work. In this order the unemployed seek to make ends meet. Even more than the economic and physical effects, the effects on the spirit, the workers' outlook on life is greatly distorted. Discouragement, despair, hopelessness. In brief, "what unemployment does to people is to take the spring out of them."

The Causes and Remedies

In "The Problem of Unemployment" (Macmillan, 1931, \$3.50), P. H. Douglas and A. Director have succeeded in summarizing most of our present knowledge about the causes and proposals for improvement. To this end the authors analyze the facts as to the extent of unemployment, discuss the most characteristic forms of joblessness, the causes of the business cycle, and in considerable detail, the facts and theories of technological unemployment. In addition there is a careful discussion of the methods for improvement, such as more reliable statistical information, a national system of employment exchanges, a long-range plan of public works and unemployment insurance. On all of these subjects there is a fairly complete summary of the literature which has been growing at a rapid rate since the depression of 1920-21.

The central theme in this volume is, that while considerable progress toward removing some of the causes of unemployment will be made, progress to be made by regularizing seasonal industries, by controlling credit to the end of reducing the business cycle, by planning our public works on a long-time basis and by repassing the Wagner Employment Exchange Bills, it is not likely that these measures will succeed in removing more than a small fraction of total joblessness. It is necessary, therefore, that some method of providing aid to the job-

less be established. The history and experience of unemployment insurance, in foreign countries, is reviewed in several chapters and a plan for the United States is proposed. The authors favor a plan in which the funds are raised by joint contributions of employers and workers with the rates paid by employers to be varied for different industries in order to provide an incentive for the regularization of employment.

The authors go to considerable pains to prove that technological unemployment is an impossibility, that the competitive system works out the adjustment in fine fashion, so that workers who are displaced by machines are absorbed in other industries. While it is conceded that such an adjustment takes considerable time and that the burden of the change falls wholly on the worker, it is the opinion of the reviewers that too much faith is placed in the ability of the competitive system to work out the adjustment. In some instances, the displacement of men by machinery does not reduce production costs; if it does, it does not always lead to lower prices. For many commodities the demand does not necessarily increase when prices are lowered. There is, therefore, no increased demand for workers.

What needs to be emphasized is that there is need for an increasing amount of social control over technological improvements. Such control can be exercised by three groups. The employer retards technological improvement when he finds that the market will not absorb the added product or when its introduction is too expensive. Workers, in many unionized industries control with a view to protecting those who are likely to be displaced. Society may be just as much interested in delaying technological advance if it will result in labor displacement or in other social problems. That emphasis has not been stressed sufficiently. As a result part of our unemployment and much of our overdevelopment in certain industries (oil, coal, automobiles, for example) are due to absence of much needed controlling mechanism for technological developments.

Will Reduction of Wages Solve Unemployment?

The relation of wages to unemployment has received more discussion during the present depression than probably at any other time. One group contends that to maintain wages when other prices are falling makes labor expensive and leads employers to dispense with as much of it as possible. In addition, artificial maintenance of wages, in view of the reduction in other costs, retards business recovery. "Unemployment—An Analysis and Suggested Solution," by John P. Bibby (P. S. King and Son, London, 5/-), is a brief statement of this

point of view. The book seeks to show that "unemployment is essentially due to the sluggishness with which wages respond to the variations in the demand and supply for labor, and to show that it is only along the lines of overcoming this sluggishness that any permanent solution of the unemployment problem can be reached." In brief, whenever two per cent of the workers are unemployed it indicates, contends the author, that the "wages fund" is not large enough to pay all workers and if wages of those who are at work were reduced by two per cent, there would be enough money to pay all workers and therefore there would be no unemployment. The author would give to each union in each trade the power to lower wages by the percentage that its members are unemployed. He would rely on economic laws to increase them again when all workers are employed.

The criticism of this thesis is obvious, even though one cannot so easily dismiss the need for some plasticity in wage rates. The "wages-fund" theory has long been discarded. Wages come from production and not from a predetermined fund. The reliance on "inexorable economic tendencies" is less justified today when government regulation, price fixing, trade union rules and business combinations characterize the industrial picture.

In addition to the particular criticism of this book, the proponents of wage reduction assume too much when they contend that by cutting wages, costs of production will be cut and prices will be lowered. This, they say, will increase the purchasing power of consumers, result in hiring more labor at the lower rate and probably in paying out more rather than less in the way of total wages.

But is it not likely that the employer may be unwilling to drop his price and even if he did that he may not find an increased market for his goods? There is resistance among all producers, employers or workers, against cutting prices. The assumptions of pure theory do not always work out. Even if they do eventually, in the meantime there has been a reduction in purchasing power and an increase in unemployment. Added to this weakness of the theoretical argument, there are social and humanitarian arguments against wage cutting. It is not intended, of course, to maintain that high wages will necessarily prevent unemployment, but in the opinion of the reviewer no case has been made that a reduction in wages will necessarily aid the return of good business.

Economic Planning and Unemployment

In his *Nemesis of American Business* (Macmillan, 1931, \$2.00) Stuart Chase, who has succeeded as few others in picturing for us the machine technology which dominates our life, concludes that among other things, we need to set up a national planning board to prepare



WILLIAM HABER

a 10-year plan for the coordinated economic development of the United States. This is a collection of his most recent essays, most of which have appeared in magazines. In addition to his emphasis on the need for more planning in our economic system, Mr. Chase emphasizes the need for shorter hours and higher wages, for amending the Sherman Anti-Trust Law to permit combinations for control of production, and unemployment insurance to replace our insulating system of charity.

Few of those who propose economic planning, Mr. Chase included, seek to answer the vital issues which planning involves. The idea is, no doubt, imported from European nations, Russia, Italy and to some extent France and Germany. To be really effective planning our economic development requires that the planning boards have power to direct our industrial processes. Our willingness to grant such power to boards or commissions during the war period does not imply our equal willingness to do it again. In brief, the proposal for national planning implies our willingness to scrap much of our ideas and methods of free competition and individualism and to realize that our complex economic machine needs organized coordination if smooth functioning is to be assured. Whether this can be done under a system where the profit motive dominates is, to the reviewer, very questionable.

Unemployment Insurance

Unemployment insurance has been the most persistent proposal made in the past five years for dealing with unemployment. No American state has thus far adopted compulsory insurance. In England, however, the insurance scheme is 20 years old. A review of the history and experience of the British

plan is, therefore, of definite aid to American proposals. For that reason, Mary B. Gilson's exhaustive study of *Unemployment Insurance in Great Britain* (Industrial Relations Counselors, 1931, 560 pages) is to be welcomed.

The British insurance plan was adopted in 1911 for a relatively small group of workers, extended in 1916 to include munition workers and in 1920 to all workers, 16 to 60 years of age except those in agriculture or domestic service, a total of nearly 12,000,000, the largest number under an insurance scheme in any country. It is based on contributions secured from the workers, employers and the government. Under certain conditions an unemployed worker in 1930 receives in benefits from the fund 17s per week (\$4.25) and additional 9s. (\$2.25) for one adult dependent and 2s (\$0.50) for each child.

Contrary to impressions prevalent in this country the plan was highly successful until 1921. From that year the after-war economic depression increased the percentage of workers unemployed from 2.4 to 14.8. Since that time more than 10 per cent of the British workers have been unemployed and the funds collected by the insurance system have not been sufficient to meet the demands made upon it.

Two results followed. In the first place the fund has had to borrow from the government and is now hopelessly in debt. Secondly, the scheme has been amended so as to destroy many of the provisions which have kept the fund solvent. At the same time, it must be remembered that the great bulk of the funds is still raised by contributions from the workers and the employers.

The conclusions of the author are (again, contrary to American opinion) that there has been relatively little malingering, that the insurance scheme has prevented the standard of living of the British worker from being lowered, that unlike conditions in other countries suffering from unemployment, there has been relatively little malnutrition. The author doubts whether the evidence supports the charge that the insurance scheme has discouraged the mobility of labor.

Of value to American proposals the English experience justifies the following conclusions: Unemployment insurance should be coordinated with a system of old age pensions, the plan should be constructed strictly on insurance lines, industries which have relatively little unemployment should pay less toward the fund than those in which employment is irregular.

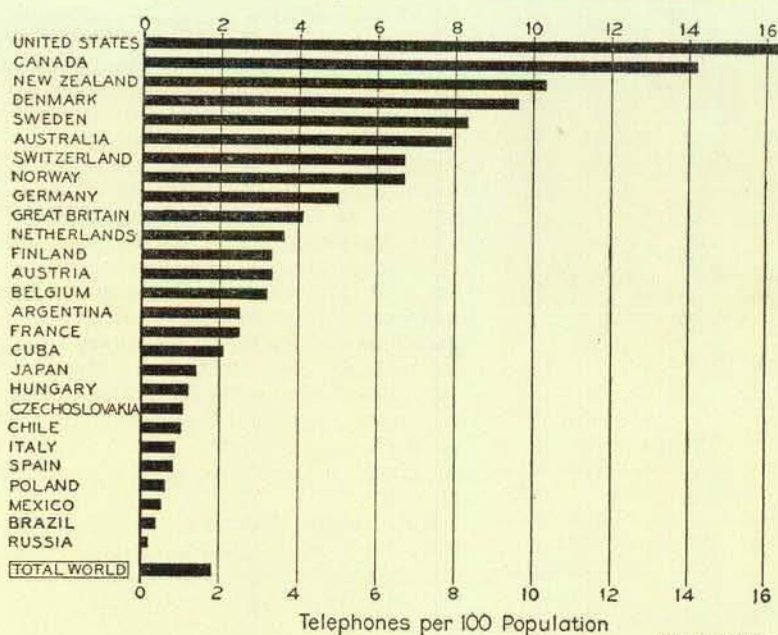
The delusive idea that men merely toil and work for the sake of preserving their bodies, and procuring for themselves bread, houses, and clothes, is degrading and not to be encouraged. The true origin of man's activity and creativeness lies in his unceasing impulse to embody outside himself the divine and spiritual element within him.—Froebel.

Mask of Competition Dropped by A. T. & T.

THE July, 1931, "Bell Telephone Quarterly" says: "Of the total number of telephones in the world on July 1, 1930, 20,068,023, or more than 58 per cent, were located in the United States; more than 99 per cent of these telephones were either owned by or connected to the Bell system."

This marks a departure in policy. For

Telephone monopoly no longer pretends that independents offer competition to its system. Feels strong enough to admit absolute monopoly.



Telephones per 100 Population

years it has been the custom of the greatest artificial monopoly in the world to pose as a creature of competition. In the official propaganda of the company, the public was never allowed to lose sight of the fact that independent telephone companies served to "regulate" rates by reason of competition. This fictional competition served a useful purpose. It enabled the telephone monopoly to escape federal regulation.

Whereas most utilities' earnings are placed at 6 or 7 per cent, the Bell system is allowed to earn from 11 to 16 per cent.

How useful to the telephone monopoly is a regulation-less federal system is seen in what happened in New York City last month.

In the midst of widespread unemployment, with the head of the telephone monopoly chairman of the National Unemployment Committee, the Bell subsidiary installed 44,000 dial telephones, with their inevitable displacement of workers.

The number of telephones in principal countries is:

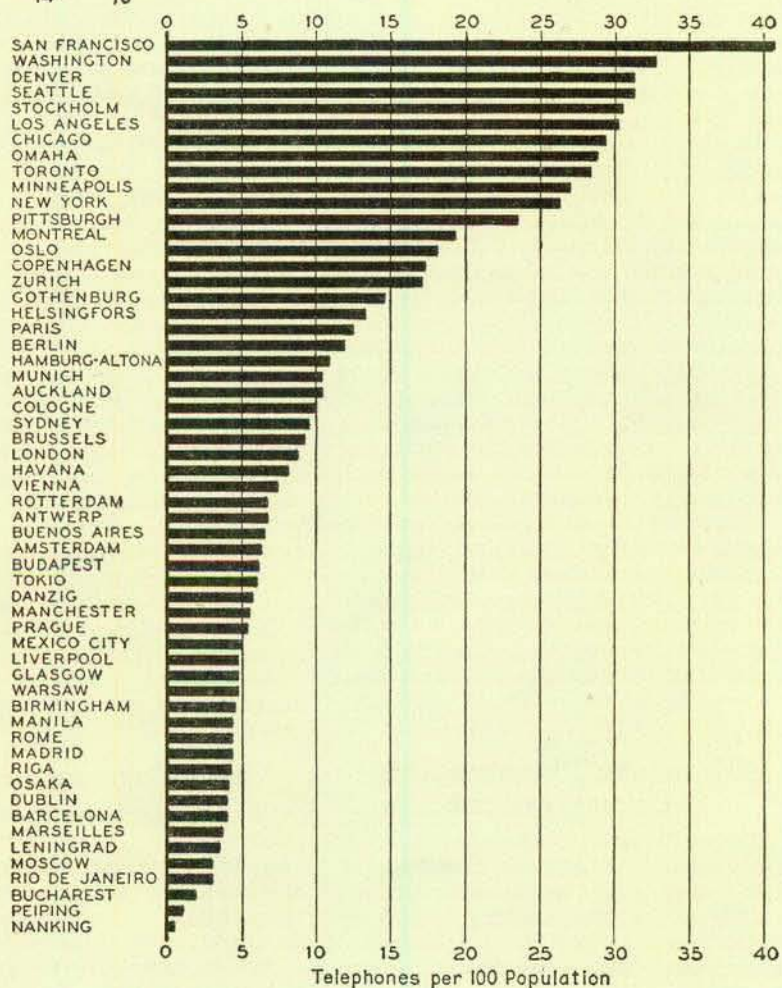
United States	20,068,023
Germany	3,182,305
Great Britain	1,886,726
Canada	1,399,986
France	1,056,034
Japan	865,516
Australia	505,554
Sweden	504,061
Italy	381,992

Denmark	341,799
Russia	331,252
Netherlands	284,433
Argentina	279,990
Switzerland	268,714
Austria	222,236
Belgium	259,673
Norway	188,238
New Zealand	161,041
Brazil	159,957
Czechoslovakia	157,707
China	156,000

The extent to which governments are operating systems is indicated by the fact that 11,117,458 telephones are government-owned as compared to 3,341,148 privately owned in countries outside the United States.

The international ramifications of the Bell System are indicated by the following:

"On that date (January 1, 1931) any Bell System Telephone could be connected to any one of 12,600,000 telephones outside the United States. Adding these to the telephones connected to the Bell System in the United States, we have a total of 32,600,000 instruments available to Bell System subscribers, or 91.5 per cent of estimated present total number of telephones in the world."



Telephones per 100 Population

Employee Stock Ownership Dimmed

WE are not hearing so much about employee stock ownership right now. Sage economists, who once pointed to the stock ownership device, as a door to industrial democracy, through which God's poor would pass into prosperity and affluence, are stilled. No one seems to wish to defend stock purchasing by employees as a substitute for unionism. The reason is not far to seek. Stock purchased at the height of artificial prosperity is worth now from one-half to one-third of the purchase price.

The following table shows the "high" of stock in 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, for principal companies having employee stock ownership plans:

	High 1928	High 1929	High 1930	High 1931 Jan.- Aug.
American Sugar Re- fining Co.	93½	94¾	69¾	60
American Telephone & Telegraph Co.	211	310¾	274¼	201¾
American Tobacco Co. (pfd)	126	121¼	129	132
Armour & Co. of Ill. (pfd)	91½	86	65	47
Eastman Kodak Co.	194¼	264¾	225½	185¾
Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.	--	41½	33½	21½
General Motors Cor- poration (pfd)	--	--	100%	103¾
Pennsylvania Rail- road Co.	76¾	110	86½	64
Pittsburgh Coal Co. Procter & Gamble Co.	78¾	83¾	78½	28½
.....	--	100	78¾	71¼
Pullman, Inc.	94	99¼	89¾	58½
Standard Oil of N. J.	59¾	83	84¾	53½
U. S. Steel	172¾	261¾	198¾	152¾
Western Union Tele- graph Co.	201	272¼	219¾	150¾

If employees bought in 1928 and 1929 when stock prices were stable at the high point, they took in 1931 losses a good deal greater than the foregoing table discloses. Stock prices in 1931 were more frequently stable at the low than at the high. Note the discrepancies:

	High 1928	High 1929	High 1930	Low Jan.- Aug. 1931
American Sugar Re- fining Co.	93½	94¾	69¾	42
American Telephone & Telegraph Co.	211	310¾	274¼	156½
American Tobacco Co. (pfd)	126	121¼	129	124¼
Armour & Co. of Ill. (pfd)	91½	86	65	10¾
Eastman Kodak Co.	194¼	264¾	225½	118
Firestone Tire & Rubber Co.	--	41½	33½	13
General Motors Cor- poration (pfd)	--	--	100%	95
Pennsylvania Rail- road Co.	76¾	110	86½	37¾
Pittsburgh Coal Co. Procter & Gamble Co.	78¾	83¾	78½	15¼
.....	--	100	78¾	56
Pullman, Inc.	94	99¼	89¾	30½
Standard Oil of N. J.	59¾	83	84¾	30¾
U. S. Steel	172¾	261¾	198¾	83½
Western Union Tele- graph Co.	201	272¼	219¾	96¼

The ELECTRICAL WORKERS JOURNAL foresaw this situation in respect to em-

Employer device once deemed capable of bringing the industrial millennium played down to piatissimo by corporations whose stock market quotations record the slump.

ployee stock ownership in 1928, at the height of inflation.

At that time the JOURNAL published a definitive article by Willard C. Fisher unmasking the pretentious claims of corporations. It is worth-while to quote from this article now:

"Employers know all this. Most of them know that the purchase of their own stocks, especially the common stocks, is the sheerest speculation. They know that tens of thousands of employees have been led into crushing losses and that any such reversal of the stock market, as always in the past, has followed a prolonged upward movement and must bring crushing losses to other tens of thousands who now appear to have a paper profit. Why, then, do so many persist in offering their stocks? That is another story, involving many 'a bit of psychology', as one of their number called it, in describing his own procedure." * * *

"It now will be noted at once that the presumptions are all against the

safety of employee stock ownership as an investment, since the employee practices neither selection nor diversification, neither of the two policies of time-tried wisdom which all other investors are forever warned that they neglect only at their peril.

"It is of the highest importance to bear in mind that in many of the plans, probably in more than a half, payments for the stock purchased are not allowed to be made in full, cash down at the time of purchase or at any later date, but only in exact accord with the prescribed schedule of instalments, and so must be protracted during periods of from about one year to two, three, four, five or even more.

"In nearly all plans the employee is left exposed to the full sweep of security fluctuations.

"But there are a great many which have fallen after the sale, even fallen very low, and then have risen again and gone on upward in most gratifying manner. And everybody knows that one of the surest winners in the stock market is the man, the exceptional and courageous man, for whom a loss does not mean everything, and who is not frightened or otherwise forced into selling when the quotations fall, but rather takes that dark time for discreetly adding to his holdings.

"It remains true that the larger number of the workmen who have speculated in their employer's stocks within

(Continued on page 557)

POEMS FOR DEPRESSED TIMES

INVICTUS

By W. E. HENLEY

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the Pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever Gods there be
For my unconquerable soul.

In the fell clutch of circumstance
I have not winced or cried aloud,
Under the bludgeonings of chance
My head is bloody but unbowed.

Beyond this place of wrath and tears
Looms but the horror of the shade;
And yet the menace of the years
Finds and shall find me unafraid.

It matters not how strait the gate,
How charged with punishment the scroll—
I am the master of my fate,
I am the captain of my soul.

Can't Tote Dollar Bills in Breech-Cloths

WHAT is all this talk about silver? Have the hands of the political clock been turned back 40 years to the first campaign of William Jennings Bryan? Was there something in the slogan of "16 to 1"? These are questions uppermost in American minds today.

There is a good deal of discussion of silver in newspapers. A group in the U. S. Senate believes that the fall in the value of silver during the last decade is a determining cause of the world depression. This group, led by Senator Key Pittman, wants a world conference to discuss the silver situation.

Sir Henri Detering, of the Royal Dutch Petroleum Company, Holland, one of the big business men of Europe, declared recently "Immediate adoption of bimetallism is the only possible remedy for our sick world today; in other words restoration of the silver standard."

The facts are simple, but little known. In warm countries, where clothes are scant, paper money cannot be used. It is too perishable. Gold is scarce. Silver is the medium of exchange. Now silver has fallen in value since 1929 from about \$1.44 an ounce to about 24 cents an ounce. As a result one-half the world is broke.

An Expert's View

This condition has been before the Senate Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations for several years. In 1930, a British financier, J. F. Darling, appeared before this committee. We quote:

"MR. DARLING. I am at present director of the Midland Bank of London. I have had 50 years banking experience, first in Scotland, then for 11 years in India, at the time when the mints were closed to silver in 1893; then in country banking in England as a general manager, and subsequently on a merger of the bank of which I was the general manager with the London Joint Stock Bank, I ultimately became general manager of the London Joint Stock Bank. That bank again became merged in the Midland Bank, and for a time I was managing director with two others of the Midland Bank. For reasons of health, I resigned that appointment, retaining my seat on the board of the Midland Bank. Since my retirement from active banking business I have spent a good deal of my time endeavoring to bring the British Empire closer together economically and financially, and for this purpose I have traveled at different times in Canada, South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand.

The mysterious and towering money structure of the world is reduced to the level of simple folk habits. Tropic conditions make silver the standard, due to the perishability of paper currency, backed by gold. Depreciated silver leaves one-half the world weak in purchasing power, powerless to buy American goods.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. You have prepared an article which we have here in the form of a pamphlet entitled 'The Rex, a New Money to Unify the Empire.' Will you briefly state your reasons for suggesting this system?"

"MR. DARLING. Perhaps I should say first of all that I was opposed to the return of England to the gold standard in 1925, not that I objected to a gold standard, but that the moment had not arrived when England could with safety resume free payments of gold. By safety I mean without producing very severe industrial troubles. Our pound then was considerably below parity, and

it was only raised to parity because a committee was appointed and an opinion gathered ground that very soon the Bank of England would again be prepared to pay gold at a world parity. Then after the India Currency Commission reported in 1926, I came to the conclusion that that commission's recommendations for the application of the gold standard to India would not be to the advantage of the Indian people. The commission's report stated very clearly how a serious depreciation in silver would be detrimental to the interests of India and particularly to the peasant class which constitute nearly 70 per cent of India's population. Perhaps I might put in the section of the report where it is stated:

Indian Nation Tied to Silver

"The people of India have from time immemorial placed their trust in silver as the medium of exchange and as their store value. They are deeply interested in the value of silver bullion, and it is contrary to their interest to depreciate it. The present proposals (those of the Indian Government officials) would inflict heavier losses on the poorer classes, who have put their savings in silver ornaments and who would find their store of value depreciated by perhaps 50 per cent by the action of the government."

"SENATOR PITTMAN. When was that report made?"

"MR. DARLING. July, 1926.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. And at that time they predicted a depreciation of nearly half the value of all silver in India?"

"MR. DARLING. They thought they could sell this large quantity of silver and that the price would not fall below 24 pence per ounce.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. Did they not state in that report that it would fall pretty nearly one-half?"

"MR. DARLING. I do not remember that.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. I refer to what you just read.

"MR. DARLING. Oh, yes. If the proposal of the government officials had been carried out they estimated that the silver would be depreciated by 50 per cent. That is correct.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. And it has resulted in that, has it not?"

"MR. DARLING. It has resulted in that. Without the full recommendations having been carried out, it has resulted in that on the commission's own recommendations which were considerably modified and involved a good deal smaller sale of silver, but still very considerable. On their recommendations India would be required



SPIRIT OF THE EAST

(Continued on page 557)

A. F. of L. Meets at Crucial Moment

By EYE-WITNESS

THE American Federation of Labor is meeting in Vancouver at a time when its economic philosophy is under attack by businessmen and bankers.

The gains made following the 1921 depression, including the gradual acceptance of its high-wage philosophy, are in danger of being replaced by setbacks, determined by a policy of deflation.

President Green's forthright attack on wage reductions made by the U. S. Steel Corporation, strikes the keynote of convention opinion. The delegates are not unaware that the ultimate objective of bankers, carrying out a deflation policy, is union wage-scales. President Green declared apropos of steel cuts:

"The press reports Assistant Secretary Julius Klein of the Department of Commerce as having said that 'There will be hell to pay throughout the United States in the event of a general wage reduction.' I am not sure that Assistant Secretary Klein has been correctly quoted, but it is my honest, sincere opinion, arrived at after deliberate and calm consideration, that whether this prediction of Assistant Secretary Klein may or may not come true, the fact is that it ought to be a logical outcome of the wage-cutting policies pursued by the highly protected employing corporations of the Nation."

The leaders of the movement have continuously warned against attacking labor's standard of living.

G. M. Bugniazet, secretary, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers: "History has proven that in periods of depression, wage reductions have only retarded the resumption of normal conditions, and have not resulted in bringing about more work."

John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer, Metal Trades Department: "We must demand that industry supply stability of employment. We must demand that the middle-aged worker shall not be denied an opportunity to work. We must demand that wages bear an economic relationship to the annual volume of wealth being created by industry. We must demand that the hours of labor be materially shortened. We must demand and insist upon a more effective voice in determining wages and hours. We must demand that exploitation of labor shall no longer be permitted, and we must make our demands in a manner which cannot be ignored."

John L. Lewis, president, United Mine Workers of America: "Those in high places who rest serene in the thought that cycles must have their fling, will soon have to go into action or else face action which might bring radical changes in our recognized

Delegates fully impressed with seriousness of attack on American standards of life. In no mood to trifle with wage-scales.

system of commercial enterprise. Multitudes of hungry and homeless, foreclosed homes, nation-wide bank manipulations which have destroyed the savings of a lifetime of toil, are not the requisites upon which a democracy is founded. It is the duty of business to provide and promote efficient enterprise and if business leaders fail the task, and regardless of the 'less government in business' ballyhoo, the people will undertake the performance on their own responsibility by exercising their voting strength in devising and enlarging the regulatory powers of their federal and state governments."

Matthew Woll, vice president, International Photo-Engravers Union: "This nation is equipped with the resources and the mechanism to maintain every American man, woman and child in comfort and decency, on a level above that ever enjoyed by any people anywhere in the past or in the present. And yet, the paradox of starvation beside the

heaps of plenty. The nation is stirred by the condition which surrounds us. I am no prophet of despair and I do not join with those who seek only bleak days ahead. But I do say that an industrial order that over the last decade has steadily raised the volume and value of its product, while steadily decreasing the number of its employed faces a day of reckoning that demands a drastic readjustment. I am not a prophet of despair solely because I believe this nation will have intelligence enough to work out that readjustment. If that fails—but it cannot fail!"

Organized labor is expected to oppose attacks on wages with every weapon at its command.

It is but a little time—a few days longer in this prison-house of our degradation, and each thing shall return to its own fountain; the blood-drop to the abysmal heart, and the water to the river, and the river to the shining sea; and the dewdrop which fell from Heaven shall rise to Heaven again, shaking off the dust grains which weighed it down, thawed from the earth frost which chained it here to herb and sward, upward and upward ever through stars and suns, through gods, and through the parents of the gods purer and purer through successive lives, until it enters The Nothing, which is the all, and finds its home at last.—Hypatia.



ONE DAY IN MEXICO

A photograph of historical significance. Samuel Gompers was in Mexico when he was smitten with his last illness. This was photographed by Gustav Schoedsack, 1924, in Mexico City. It is copyrighted 1931 by International Photographer, which courteously lent it to this Journal. The veteran, Frank Morrison, beams benignly on the scene.

Gentle Art of Making Up Opponent's Mind

THE open-shop drive, 1931-model, beginning 18 months ago, in National City and Chase National Banks (homes of great aggregates of capital centered in anti-union industries) goes merrily toward a culmination. This year's anti-union campaign has been distinguished by its urbanity, secretiveness, hypocrisy, and insolence.

Wall Street newspapers have said day after day that the President of the United States did not mean what he said, when he declared that he was against wage-cuts. He had "revised" his opinions. He had "modified" his stand. Hardly a day went by that the President did not have to issue a denial, to a new brand of equivocation.

But the height of the insolent campaign was reached when B. C. Forbes, financial writer, declared in his syndicated column, that William Green had "changed his mind" about the all-important question of wage-reductions. Mr. Forbes knew more about what Mr. Green thought than Mr. Green himself. Then Mr. Green spoke:

"The story by Mr. B. C. Forbes, which appeared in a chain of newspapers today, leads to the conclusion that another drive is on for a reduction in wages. It is my opinion that efforts are being made by certain banking and financial interests to bring about a reduction in wages. The part of this story referred to which states that the president of the American Federation of Labor has changed his attitude toward a proposal for wage reductions is untrue and without any foundation whatsoever.

"The prophecy contained in this amazing article that ere long I would favor a reduction in wages is unjustifiable and unwarranted. The writer of this article could have learned of my uncompromising attitude in opposition to wage reductions had he made inquiry before writing this article.

"If the prediction of the writer that the United States Steel Corporation is to readjust wages is as unfounded as is the prediction that I will ultimately favor reductions in wages there will be no reductions in wages imposed upon the employees of the United States Steel Corporation. [Editor's Note: This was written before the wage-cut in steel. Mr. Green has unequivocally condemned that cut.]

"I will refuse to believe that this great corporation, which has steadfastly proclaimed its determination to maintain existing wage scales, will change its attitude and reduce wages. Only a public announcement by responsible officers of this corporation that it had changed its attitude will convince me.

"I am firmly of the opinion that re-

Genial writers for Wall Street press jovially prove that President of United States and American labor chief don't know what they are talking about. Open-Shop drive-1931—free-wheeling, and all modern inconveniences.



Wido World Photo

WILLING TO THINK FOR GREEN

B. C. Forbes, financial writer, has taken a prominent part in the persuasive campaign of bankers for wage-cuts. He exacted wonder and admiration by his statement that the president of the American Federation of Labor had changed his mind about wage cuts.

ductions in wages, which have been forced in some industries, have served to extend the distressing period of unemployment which affects every community throughout the land. An attempt to further reduce the impaired purchasing power of the masses of the people will only add to the suffering and distress of the coming winter. No greater mistake could be made by employers than to force and impose reductions in wages. Such action could properly be classified as another fatal mistake added to the many they have already made during this depression. If the banking and financial interests of this country appreciated the feeling which their endeavors to bring about reductions in wages have aroused in the hearts and

minds of the masses of the people, they would immediately stop their vicious propaganda in behalf of wage reductions.

"As an answer to the statement made by Mr. Forbes, the American Federation of Labor is uncompromising in its attitude of opposition to the reductions in wages and in order to preserve and protect that attitude it will call upon workers wherever an attempt is made to reduce wages to resist such an attempt with all the power they possess. Workers who resist attempts to reduce wages will be supported in their action by the American Federation of Labor."

Wage Cuts Aggravate Depression

The publisher, W. R. Hearst, declared:

"Several of the greatest corporations in the United States have cut the salaries of their employees 10 per cent, and by so doing have contributed their utmost towards the aggravation of the depression and the accentuations of the injustice already inflicted upon the wage-earners of the country and the elements dependent on the welfare of these workers.

"The immediate cause for this cut in wages to workers is the present difficulty that the corporations have in paying dividends on their stock, but the actual and elemental cause is the issuance by these corporations of more stock than they are capable of paying dividends on.

"It may be taken as an axiomatic fact that if corporations issue stock to the limit of their capacity to pay dividends upon in good times, they will not be able to pay dividends upon it in bad times.

* * *

"Periods of inflation and depression alternate and it is obvious that if you capitalize to the utmost on the crest of the wave of prosperity you will have to pass dividends on this watered stock in the trough of the wave of depression.

"One of the fundamental causes of the present period of depression in the United States is overspeculation, plus over-capitalization. A number of inexcusable and unpardonable evil practices have been perpetrated upon the community.

"First, advantage was taken of the speculative complex on the part of the public to unload upon the community an enormous amount of utterly worthless so-called securities.

"This was pure and simple swindling of the Ponzi variety, and the perpetra-

(Continued on page 556)

Green Answers Fisher on Wage-cuts

THE following correspondence has passed between Professor Irving Fisher, economist, Yale University, and William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor. It is published here because it sharply defines the fundamental issue between labor and business economics:

YALE UNIVERSITY

Department of Political Economy,
New Haven, Connecticut.

Professor Irving Fisher,
460 Prospect Street.

August 21, 1931.

Mr. William Green, President,
American Federation of Labor,
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mr. Green:

I am, as you are, greatly concerned about the need to maintain the real incomes and the buying power of the workers. It seems to me that the policy of maintaining wage rates, announced by President Hoover and supported by organized labor, is economically unsound and has not only failed to maintain buying power, but has seriously aggravated and prolonged the industrial depression. Wage rates, to a very considerable degree, have been maintained, but the money earnings of workers have fallen probably 23 per cent since 1929. Even when the increased purchasing power of the dollar is taken into account, the total real incomes and the buying power of workers have undoubtedly fallen more than 12 per cent.

Unemployment, total and partial, is of course, responsible for this serious drop in workers' buying power, and maintained money wage rates are doubtless responsible for much of this unemployment. I need scarcely point out that the fall of more than 12 per cent in the workers' cost of living since July, 1929, has increased the buying power of each dollar of wages about 14 per cent. Freezing money wage rates fast in the face of declining cost of living and general commodity prices has actually increased real wage rates by about 14 per cent and has caused many employers to discharge thousands of workers.

The attempt then to maintain workers' buying power by maintaining money wage rates has signally failed. Money costs of production per unit have declined little, if at all, while market prices have crashed. High unit costs have retarded production and increased unemployment. The building and construction industries have been, in the past, especially important to tide over depressions and to start business on the upward swing. The great slump in building and construction during 1930-

Labor chief clashes with economist on fundamental question of wage revision. Green lays bare fallacies underlying theory that an impoverished people can bring prosperity.



Wide World Photo

PROFESSOR IRVING FISHER

Professor Fisher has become internationally known for his ardent prohibition stand, and his misinterpretation of the stock smash. He now wants labor to take voluntary wage-cuts.

31 is largely due to high unit costs because money wage rates have not declined and the real costs of building have been increased.

Talk Real Wages Now

Maintained buying power, not maintained money wage rates, is the policy which should have commanded the support of organized workers, employers, the government, and the public. Had this policy been carried out, many thousands of workers who are now unemployed in whole or in part would now be working and the situation would not be so gloomy and discouraging.

Much mischief has already been done by the "maintain-money-wages" policy, but I think it is not yet too late to inaugurate the policy of "maintained-

buying-power-wages." I think it would be a great strategic and constructive act if the representatives of organized workers would announce to employers and the public that the workers are unalterably opposed to the permanent reduction in workers' living standards due to unemployment, and that as a means of helping to maintain those standards and the buying power of the workers in this time of gloom, they are ready to enter into wage contracts providing for wage rates of unchanging buying power.

The wage rates would vary according to the index number of the cost of living, so that if and when the cost of living should again rise, money wage rates would rise in the same proportion, thus maintaining the standard of wages so far as the purchasing power is concerned at the pre-depression level. In making such adjustments, the calculations of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics would, of course, be used.

This would, it seems to me, answer the chief objection which workers have to a reduction of wages, namely, the fear that there would be no restoration of the original money wages when the cost of living later should require it. Of course, over and above the proposed corrections on the basis of the cost of living there could and would be individual adjustments on other grounds.

As you remember, such index number wages, or "Market Basket" wages, were arranged during the war and were considered practicable for millions of laboring men in this country, England and elsewhere, having been found necessary because of the rapid fluctuations in the cost of living. We have the same rapid fluctuations today, although the start-off is in the opposite direction from the first fluctuations in war-time.

I realize that the wage-earner wishes to retain any advantage which he may have received from this depression, but in my opinion, he has received no advantage, and the effort to keep money wages out of line with commodity prices has merely resulted in more unemployment and deepened the depression. You will observe that the idea of maintaining the American standard of living for the working man is the very heart and core of my suggestions. However, we should strive to maintain that standard living in terms of real incomes and purchasing power so far as possible in spite of the depression.

I am suggesting that you make a voluntary reduction. This may seem so

(Continued on page 555)

Skill of Members Solves Vexing Problem

By T. M. Gillin, L. U. 98

THIS Journal is indebted to William W. Patton and John J. Weiman, of Local Union 98, for this interesting report:

In these days of specialization, standardization and hurried production, it has become a practice to use tools and materials that seemingly will reduce the hours of labor, thereby saving money.

Since this is the trend of the times, we have no quarrel with this method, but quite often doubt the wisdom of such procedure.

The electrical contractor quite often

Every day proves that skill has not taken flight from the electrical trade. Large construction job in Philadelphia is advanced by member's inventive talent, and competency of 98's members.

tical for it is a difficult task to "fish" around a cast ell, especially when the ell is not directly connected to the outlet box.

The outgoing lines size $\frac{3}{4}$ " conduit were connected to a wireway outlet box located directly beneath the telephone distribution box. The distance between these boxes averaged 8". One of these lines ran straight, the other line required a 4" offset.

The method proposed here was to use flexible conduit and two 45° angle connectors. The cost of fitting using this system is \$154 per box.

The alternate proposal was to eliminate all fittings and bend the conduit.

Being an employee of one contractor, and the inventor of a pipe bending tool, we requested that we be allowed to demonstrate the tool and to prove that we could make a better job and save the contractor money by eliminating all fittings by bending the conduit.

This handy pipe tool allows the mechanic to start the bend in the conduit at the thread, or $1\frac{1}{4}$ " from the end of the conduit, without breaking the conduit or distorting or damaging the threads.



IN ACTION

fails to take advantage of one of the greatest assets at his command, the skill of the union men in his employ.

A local company, who has the contract for complete electrical installation on a large building in Philadelphia, successfully solved one of its many problems by relying on the ability of its men, when the question arose concerning skill or material.

Difficult Conditions

Starting with the ninth floor and including the twenty-sixth floor, each floor has 15 telephone distribution boxes, the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth floors have nine and the thirtieth floor five, making a total of 293. Each of these boxes had two incoming lines and two outgoing, size $\frac{3}{4}$ " conduit. The incoming lines were to be laid on the floor and a 90° ell turned up the wall to enter the bottom of the distribution which was located 19" above the floor. The space where this ell was to be placed was so small that a cast ell was proposed; this, however, seemed imprac-

Built Equipment

Our request being granted, we started by building a bench, using a plank 2"x10"x10'; on this plank was fastened a stationary hickey and a pipe vise; next were fashioned two narrow pieces of wood to be used as measuring sticks; these sticks were notched out to give different lengths, giving four different dimensions.

Fifteen pieces of pipe were cut and threaded on each end, then a 90° ell six inches in length was bent on one



UPWARD STROKE



FINISHED WORK

end of each piece, the other end a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " offset was bent; these bends were uniform so that neither end varied $\frac{1}{8}$ ". While these pipes were being bent the other various lengths were being cut and threaded. The longer pieces were bent in the same manner.

The shorter pieces, the tie between boxes, offered an unusual problem, a 4" offset in 8" of $\frac{3}{4}$ " conduit.

In order to expedite this part of the work a handy pipe tool was fastened on each end of the 8" nipple; the pipe was then placed in the hickey with a tool and $1\frac{1}{2}$ " of the conduit projecting out from the hickey; a sleeve was placed over the tool to use a leverage; a 45° bend was made; the pipe was then changed, end for end, and went through the same process, resulting in a smooth 4" offset.

After the bends were made these pieces did not vary $1/16$ " in length.

In eight hours one man averaged a saving in the price of fitting to the amount of \$23.70. This, of course, does not cover the many hours of time saved

(Continued on page 560)

Council Endorses Co-operative Work Plan

THE regular meeting of the International Executive Council opened at International Headquarters, 1200 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., September 8, 1931, at 9 a. m., Chairman Charles P. Ford presiding.

Members present: G. W. Whitford, F. L. Kelley, Edward Nothnagle, Charles M. Paulsen, G. C. Gadbois, C. F. Oliver, M. P. Gordan, J. L. McBride.

The chair appointed G. C. Gadbois and J. L. McBride as auditing committee.

The International Secretary submitted the following applications for pension benefits:

I. O.	J. E. Mott.
L. U.	
No.	
3	Daniel Bach.
3	John J. Carney.
3	John A. Covit.
3	Edward Jacquin.
3	Frank Mack.
3	Joseph L. Pietsch.
3	Edward Schneider.
3	Christopher Seibel.
3	Peter R. Noble.
9	Joseph Driscoll.
9	John Hughes.
38	W. A. Braden.
41	Douglas Williams.
68	Charles Peter.
86	W. R. Cook.
124	Robert T. Adams.
134	Bernard Doyle.
134	Fred G. Herweg.
134	George Letourneau.
134	John O'Connell.
134	Albert E. O'Neil.
134	H. L. Reichert.
134	Fred J. Schallert.
134	William F. Thomas.
134	George A. Thomson.
247	Frederick A. LaBrie.
267	Henry E. Opdycke.
345	J. A. Hall.
711	Charles M. Hall.

Examination of the membership records of the applicants showed that they were qualified in accordance with the constitution, and it was regularly moved and seconded that the pensions be granted. Motion carried.

The following applications for pension were considered, and on account of incomplete records concerning membership standing in some cases, and lack of evidence as to the age of applicant in other cases, it was moved and seconded that final action on the applications be deferred for the purpose of obtaining additional information, and that the cases be reconsidered

Minutes of meeting of International Executive Council, September, 1931.

ered at a future meeting in the event that additional information justifying reconsideration of the cases is filed with the council:

I. O.	F. Willis.
L. U.	
No.	
3	Francis P. Turner.
3	Frederick Ruppert.
328	Thomas D. Houlehan.
537	Martin Durkin.

Motion carried.

Appeal of James J. Crowley, member of Local Union No. 396, against a decision of the International President, was presented, and after reviewing the evidence and the facts in the case, it was moved and seconded that the decision of the International President be sustained. Motion carried.

Appeal of John J. Dunn, member of Local Union No. 3, against a decision of the International President, was presented, and after reviewing the evidence and the facts in the case, it was moved and seconded that the decision of the International President be sustained. Motion carried.

Appeal of Noel P. Sullivan, member of Local Union No. 3, against a decision of the International President, was presented, and after reviewing the evidence and the facts in the case, it was moved and seconded that the decision of the International President be sustained. Motion carried.

Appeal of Augustine P. Stahl, member of Local Union No. 3, against a decision of the International President, was presented, and after reviewing the evidence and the facts in the case, it was moved and seconded that the decision of the International President be sustained. Motion carried.

Appeal of John C. Kelly, member of Local Union No. 3, against a decision of the International President, was presented, and after reviewing the evidence and the facts in the case, it was moved and seconded that the decision of the International President be sustained. Motion carried.

Appeal of Edward Graham, member of Local Union No. 3, against a decision of the International President, was presented, and after reviewing the evidence and the facts in the case, it was moved and seconded that the decision of the International President be sustained. Motion carried.

Appeal of George W. McGibney, member of Local Union No. 3, against a decision of the International President, was presented, and after reviewing the evidence and the facts in the case, it was moved and seconded that the decision of the International President be sustained. Motion carried.

Appeal of John J. Young, Jr., member of Local Union No. 3, against a decision of the International President, was presented, and after reviewing the evidence and the facts in the case, it was moved and seconded that the decision of the International President be sustained. Motion carried.

Communication from J. B. Stone, Oakland, Calif., relative to an organizing campaign, received. Moved and seconded that the communication be answered, stating that the subject matter was being referred to the International President for his attention. Motion carried.

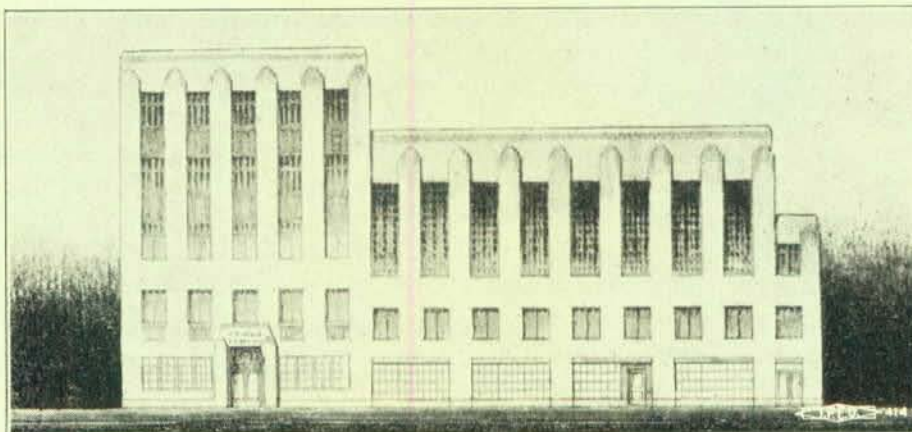
Communication from the Bricklayers, Masons and Plasterers' International Union, relative to conditions existing in Southampton, Long Island, received. Moved and seconded that the letter be referred to the International President for his action. Motion carried.

Communication from Associated Electrical Contractors, Incorporated, St. Louis, Mo., together with answer sent to the association by the chairman of the executive council, received. It was

moved and seconded that inasmuch as the association referred to had failed to file with the executive council any specific complaint or case, the communications herein referred to be filed for permanent record. Motion carried.

Application from International Representative T. C. Vickers for retirement in accordance with Section 11 of Article III of the

(Cont'd on page 556)



ST. PAUL'S NEW LABOR TEMPLE—A BEAUTY

JOURNAL OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS

Official Publication International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

Devoted
to the
Cause



of
Organized
Labor

Volume XXX

Washington, D. C., October, 1931

No. 10

New National Economic Policy In momentous times like these, when financial empires are falling, and rising, and when vast aggregates of people are being affected, it is wise to see what is happening as clearly as possible. Perhaps merely to see will do no good—now; but perhaps awareness now will enable labor to make wise decisions tomorrow.

What hitherto has been only an appearance, seems certain now. Governments have passed into the control of bankers, which means control of industrialists and politicians. When we say bankers, we mean international bankers. This is indicated by what has happened in England—the reversed direction of a government created by labor. It is indicated again by what has happened and is happening in this country. Wage-cutting, an uneconomic policy, is going forward on a big scale, at an unprecedented rate, against the best judgment of industrialists. The chairman of the Board of the U. S. Steel Corporation stood by gamely as his subordinates signed the order to cut wages affecting 1,000,000 workmen. That chairman constantly opposed wage cuts as an unwise policy, but the big bankers had their way with him.

The colossal power of this financial soviet is indicated when one considers the ease with which they broke the labor government in England, and the calmness with which they tell the heads of billion dollar corporations what to do.

The banking soviet has evidently set upon a policy of deflation. With five billion dollars of gold in their coffers, 45 per cent of the gold of the world, meaning a potential credit of 50 billion dollars, the international bankers of America determined upon a policy of deflation. It is plain that they are governing affairs without regard to the United States alone, but with regard to their gold and property holdings in other nations. They are not nationalists, but internationalists; they are not patriots, but citizens of a world. This policy of deflation appears to them more profitable to their banking interests. It appears wiser to them to level down than up. It appears shrewder business to reduce the American workman more nearly to the level of the European, than to lift the European to the level of the American. If they succeed, it is goodbye to the American standard of living.

The soviet of bankers, now riding high, strong enough to break England's labor government, and strong enough to affront the wage policy of the President of the United States,

do not intend to stop here. They will grimly try to break down union scales, and to company-unionize America, if they can. The proposal of Gerard Swope to do this latter thing is no chance, random remark. It is a settled policy.

To say that unionism is in for the fight of its life is to say the trite. Unionism has always been in the fight for its life. It has always been battling to live. But just because today's struggle is more subtle, more hidden, fought with a powerful enemy in the dark, is no sign that it is not serious—more serious perhaps than ever before.

But to be fought, we hope, with more vigor, and perchance with more sympathy from other sections of the American people.

Latest Wage Cuts There is reason to believe that this depression is being prolonged by failure of credit. No agency can step in and give the business system the proper push to drive it on again. This acceleration is a banking function, and a public function, but the banks are in the hands of private interests, whose sole purpose is to make money, not to start business at some sacrifice to themselves.

The only course that occurs to bankers to get business started is through wage-cuts. This will inevitably prolong the depression, for, what is needed is to get money into circulation, not to take it out, in the form of dividend reserves.

When steel cut wages the newspapers played up the flurry of stocks upward in Wall Street. But this flurry lasted only a day. It got advertising, but it is going to take something more than advertising to get business started. A few days later buried on the financial pages, was the cool announcement that steel prices would remain the same. The \$16,000,000 collected from unwilling workers in wage-cuts is to go into dividend reserves.

"The immediate cause for this cut in wages to workers," says the New York Journal, "is the present difficulty that the corporations have in paying dividends on their stock, but the actual elemental cause is the issuance by these corporations of more stock than they are capable of paying dividends on."

The banker strategists operate on the theory that people are hoarding money. The real truth is there is little money to spend, let alone to hoard. The business system is starving for want of capital, while the banks bulge with coin.

One more dismal chapter remains to be played in the drama of deflation—attack on union scales. This will be bitter and furious with proper pious newspaper publicity about necessity, equity, public need, and coming prosperity. Resistance will follow these attacks, and business will be further retarded.

All this has happened and will happen. The nation will groan and bleed. And few will blame banking leadership. These mercenaries, intellectually and socially bankrupt, will be hymned as saviors of the situation.

Swope Plan It was inevitable that the president of the General Electric Company should present a plan for stabilization of the entire industry. A forward looking industry, sensitive to new currents of thought and discovery, the electric induces in its leaders a restless sense of

responsibility. The present great need, the suffering of millions, the planlessness of the American system, demand action on the part of leaders, leaders more callous than Mr. Swope and Mr. Young.

Soon after the presentation of the Swope plan Charles P. Ford, in behalf of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, issued the following statement:

"We are glad to see a great industrialist endorse the reform we have advocated and put into operation in co-operation with employers. We hope the reforms he describes are not inspired by fear, but by sincere sentiment to do right by employees. But our experience has been that where benefits such as he suggests are administered by an organization subsidiary to the company itself, it leaves tragic wreckage of hopes, and failure to accomplish purpose.

"The ironical fact is that where a labor union undertakes to put these needed changes in effect, in co-operation with intelligent employers, it is charged with racketeering, but when an industrial leader like Mr. Swope discusses them it is regarded as a great humanitarian message.

"The success of such a plan can be only through well and independently organized employees. This is not casting any reflections on Mr. Swope's sincerity."

There is little more to be said. The strength of the Swope plan lies in its industrial character, its recognition of employee needs and rights, its willingness to recognize the right of the public to know what is going on; its weaknesses are that it hopes to extend the present unsatisfactory, inefficient and unsocial system of industrial relations obtaining in the General Electric plants throughout the entire industry.

Safety in the Home "The Week's Science," operated by Dr. E. E. Free, presents facts, which taken together, make an editorial pleading for home wiring of approved workmanship. In view of the campaign now on to do that very thing, we quote Dr. Free's statement in full:

"A child killed by a defective socket on an electric extension cord, a woman electrocuted by a portable floor lamp, an electrician who died because a cement floor was salty and a bather badly shocked by a wash-rag accidentally electrified are among recent accidents listed by the Tuna Electrical Company of New York City as part of a plea to everyone to keep electrical equipment continually in good repair. The baby was electrocuted, the Company's announcement states, because the key on the socket had become loose and made contact between the wire and the socket's brass cover. This dangerous socket lay on the floor as part of a connection to a radio receiver. The baby, creeping around the room, picked up the defective socket and at the same time touched the radiator. The trouble with the fatal floor lamp was that a sharp edge inside the lamp cut through the insulation on one of the electric wires. While dusting, the victim accidentally touched this electrified lamp and a radiator at the same instant. The electrician who was killed replaced an electric plug in the wrong way, thus supplying the fatal current to the frame of a machine. On touching this frame while

standing on the salty cement floor he was killed, something which could have been avoided by safer design of plug and machine. The bather was shocked when a wet wash-rag touched the brass parts of a combined gas and electric fixture inside which the insulation had worn off one of the wires. Shocks from the voltages of electricity ordinarily used in households usually will not cause death but there are many possible exceptions. Regular inspection of fixtures and wiring is a desirable safety precaution, like the regular inspection of human beings which physicians advocate on the ground of health."

Two "Cures" Several months ago we warned that always in times of depression, two proposals are offered as cures: one is the sales tax; the other is war. Already the sales tax is being urged by Senator Reed of Pennsylvania, often described as spokesman for the Secretary of the Treasury, and there are indications that hatred and fear of Russia are being fomented in certain quarters.

The sales tax, also backed by the Hearst paper, is represented as being fair and painless. Senator Reed declares it will mean *only* 10 dollars from each citizen. Thus a man with \$1,000 a year income will be paying one per cent in sales taxes, while the man with \$1,000,000 a year income will be paying about one thousandth of one per cent in sales taxes. The poor man will pay 1,000 times as much as the rich man. The rich man can not spend enough to equalize taxes. Surely a noble, and beneficent arrangement, scientific in the extreme, calculated to make America safe for profiteers.

As to war with Russia, we found these queries in a trade publication issued in Washington:

"Do you know that Soviet Russia aims at the destruction of the present day political and economic system of the world?"

"Do you know that at any moment which she will consider opportune, she may launch an attack on Europe, and indirectly, on America?"

According to dispatches to New York papers, Russia has lost interest in world affairs, and is too busy with production to give war a thought. Moreover, Russians admire American technical ability and show extreme interest in American civilization. Russia needs the United States too much in the next 50 years to wish it destroyed.

President Green of the American Federation of Labor has put labor squarely in opposition to the sneaking sales tax. It is doubtful whether Americans will fall for the myth of the Russian menace.

Steady nerves are going to be a factor in recovery. When a man is hungry, tired, with little hope, he loses his resistance to shock. Molehills become mountains. Fire-crackers become bombs. The spurt of a match resounds with the force of a world-shaking explosion. Every reverse, however small, falls with the weight of a universe. This cannot be helped. But to know how the mind reacts may lead to an attitude more capable of meeting reverses. What is needed most now is cool heads and strong hearts.



WOMAN'S WORK



The Ultimate Necessity Is Work

NOTHING will bring back a normal balance of trade to this country quicker than jobs. The employed man buys. Not only food and shelter, but a vast multitude of other commodities. A man living near Washington, D. C., says he lived last winter on a diet of boiled wheat, whole milk and sugar. It takes a long time to boil the wheat but he had to have a fire anyway. Last winter he lived on boiled wheat, cooked on his small heater stove. In the summer he took sunbaths to safeguard his health. His income was practically nil, but he lived, and had adequate nourishment.

But who wants a nation sitting with gnarled hands folded, watching the wheat kettle simmer on the stove?

A revival of building pulled us out of the last slump. Authorities generally agree that building is a key industry. We cannot have good business while building lags. Due partly to the notorious malpractice in financing speculative building, real estate bond scandals and investment failures, and partly to the reluctance of bankers, money for new building is hard to get.

But if we cannot have a new building boom, there is a tremendous volume of business, largely untouched, in renewing old structures. There are millions of homes in this country which either are not equipped with modern conveniences, or are not suited to the needs of their owners. And there is a growing sentiment in favor of modernization.

The era of reckless spending is past. The man who owns his home takes a higher standing among his fellows than the one who sports an expensive car. We realize that the home owner has a better investment and is entitled to recognition for his superior wisdom. People are turning to their homes with more interest as they recognize the beauty, stability and peace that may be contained in the four walls of a dwelling place. They are anxious to make improvements. Funds that might have been spent for passing pleasures are ready to invest in home comfort and convenience.

Venture in Co-operation

Many out-of-work programs will be inaugurated this winter. But among them that of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is unique.

The Co-operative Work Plan, as it is called, enlists the services of both the union electrical contractors and of the members of the Brotherhood. These two powerful groups are to join forces

in a drive for modernizing the electrical features of homes. Both groups recognize their common interest in the effort to make this business available. Too often this work is captured by the jack-leg, or the curbstoner, because the owner has not been approached by any reputable concern.

The market is there. It is estimated that seven and one-half million of the twenty-nine million homes in this country are not wired at all. Twenty and one-half million are wired, but only 1.2 per cent are wired adequately. The other 98.8 per cent need wiring improvements to bring them up to date, and insure provision for the many large electrical appliances coming into use.

Our standards of electrical beauty and efficiency have been changing very rapidly. A house built ten years ago is not up to date electrically except where recent changes have been made. There is hardly a housewife who is satisfied that she has a complete wiring system. She wants a power circuit for appliances in frequent use; she wants to replace the cumbrous chandeliers; she wants switches at the doorways, lights in the closets, new outlets here, there and everywhere. If she seems to be content with the old inconvenient ways it is because she is afraid the change will involve much dirt and disorder, or else because she thinks the job will be prohibitively high priced.

Now, as members of the Brotherhood are giving their time to further the effects of the Co-operative Work Plan, and stimulate interest in modernization, by acting as salesmen and sales managers for the drive, it is up to the women to lend their efforts as well.

Women Circulate

Every woman belongs to some social group and when women gather the talk almost always touches on home conveniences at some point in the conversation. It's not difficult to turn the interest to electrical aids to housekeeping. It is always easy to talk about what we all would like to have. Those who own electric refrigerators, stoves, mixers, washing and ironing machines, or other new household machines, are enthusiastic about them. Then will be your opportunity to ask whether changes in the wiring were made when these appliances were installed. If they were not, you probably have found a customer for the Co-operative Work Plan.

For appliances that are heavy users of current usually demand more wiring for the house as existing circuits will not carry the load; and in many cities there is an industrial rate which customers may obtain for all uses except lighting, at a much lower cost, which involves a separate circuit and meter. As explained in previous issues of the JOURNAL, it is a very good investment for a householder to bring in a power circuit and place all his appliances on it, for the cost of running them is cut about in half and danger of burning out circuits is done away with.

Many electrical conveniences have been described in the JOURNAL. Read again the article in Woman's Work of August, 1931, in which the adequate home wiring system is described; and in June, 1931, where the delights of electric cookery are discussed. Refresh your knowledge and then talk to your friends. The more interest you can arouse in your friends and neighbors in the subject of equipping their homes electrically, the more attention they will give to the Brotherhood salesman who calls to tell them how it can be done.

The Co-operative Work Plan is intended to sell service. Men will be selected who know how to tell the housewife what she needs to run her home efficiently, and who can estimate what it will cost to do the job. Of course the Brotherhood is not interested in selling appliances, but as the manufacturers of appliances will benefit from better wiring in homes, so should the wiremen benefit from the great interest of home owners in electrical household machines. Some of these, of course, are luxuries; but others, such as stoves and refrigerators, may even be made to pay for themselves in the long run if they are correctly wired and metered at the low rate.

Good Investment

Anything that increases the beauty and convenience of a house increases its sales value. The value of an old house can be increased a great deal by intelligent remodeling. No one wants to buy an old, dingy, inconvenient dwelling, but the same house, reconditioned and brought up to date, may find a ready buyer at a good price. Modernizing work, therefore, is an investment; for no one can be sure that any location is a permanent one, and thus we must watch the sale value of our homes. Why not make the improvements now,

(Continued on page 558)



Two attractive costumes above display the charm of Celanese fabrics. Crepe Ondese and satin are combined while smart color contrasts accentuate the youthful effect.

For lounging or home hours, the Cotton Textile Institute suggests the broadcloth pajamas (right) of red, white and blue in a broken stripe pattern.



CONSTRUCTIVE HINTS

STREET LIGHTING

Brackets and Center-span Highway Lighting Units. Straight Series and Straight Multiple Type

The extended use of automobiles, both for pleasure and commercial purposes, has brought with it serious and irritating problems. Improved streets and new highways have been a great help in taking care of increased traffic in the daytime. The use of the automobile is by no means restricted to daylight, however, and the need of adequate lighting for night traffic has become of great importance. Great strides have been made in meeting the new lighting needs within the city and now the growth of night traffic has made highway lighting equally urgent.

Equipped with powerful headlights and assured of a good road surface, the motorists use the highway during the night to the same extent that they use the city streets. Each car must provide sufficient road illumination to permit stopping or changing the direction of travel. The unrestricted light beams, however, are a serious menace to safety of other drivers or pedestrians. The severity of the glare is greatly increased in the case of headlights, because of the extreme contrast with the dark surroundings. First, local ordinances, and finally, state laws have been passed to regulate not only the size of the headlight lamp but also the direction of its rays.

It is impossible to strictly enforce these conditions and, as a result, the danger from glaring headlights is still a menace.

The failure of other methods induced a study of the problem of lighting the highway. Highway lighting must be uniform and general. The road surface must furnish the light and not the automobile, because we cannot expect to illuminate highways properly and without glare by using rapidly moving light sources only three feet above the ground. A highway lighting system should embody many of the characteristics of an ordinary street lighting system with certain modifications to meet the new conditions imposed.

1. A reasonably uniform illumination is required over the entire road surface and some light is required at both sides of the road to light the fences, ditches, etc.

2. The rays of light must be confined to the road surface and not spread out equally in all directions.

3. The height of the lamps must be sufficient to remove the light source from the normal line of vision.

4. The fixture must accommodate a fairly small lamp and yield a high degree of illumination. It must apply the utmost efficiency in distributing this illumination by bending all the upward and outward rays toward the road surface.

The Novalux highway units, both the nested parabolic reflector type and the Holograph refractor type, have been designed especially to meet these conditions. Both of these units are equipped with suitable arrangements for adjustment, so that the light can be directed to the road surface. They should be installed at about a 30-foot mounting height and are recommended to be spaced as follows:

State highways with dense traffic—200- to 300-foot spacing.

State highways with less traffic—300- to 400-foot spacing.

Improved roads—400- to 500-foot spacing.

Country roads—500- to 600-foot spacing.

DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS

Ratio Adjusters

The ratio adjuster is a safe, reliable and convenient device for changing taps in transformer windings.

Advantages:

1. Simplicity and safety in changing taps, preventing possibility of wrong connections with consequent open or short circuits.

2. Saving in time and expense. No necessity for lowering the oil or waiting for the oil to cool.

3. No loose parts which might be dropped into the windings.

4. Stationary contacts rigidly molded in insulating compound. Contact is thorough and positive.

5. Mechanism highly insulated and housed by a cylinder adjacent to the coil stack, eliminating long leads and complicated terminal boards.

6. Contacts will carry full short-circuit current of the transformer.

The ratio adjuster permits changing voltage ratio in a transformer by turning an operating handle which actuates the mechanism through an insulating rod. The adjuster position is indicated by a pointer and dial located directly under the handle.

For small distribution transformers, the ratio adjuster handle is located inside the cover but above the oil level, in which case the cover is removed before changing the ratio. In larger sizes of transformers a manhole in the cover is provided directly above the dial.

When supplied with standard single-phase transformers, 150 kv-a to 500 kv-a, the handle is brought through the cover.

This device is not intended for changing connections from one tap to another while the transformer is under load or even while it is excited. Voltage must therefore be removed from the transformers when the taps are changed.

MICARTA PRODUCTS

Micarta is a strong, dense material made by hot-pressing sheets of fibrous material which previously have been impregnated with an organic binder.

General Characteristics.—All grades of Micarta possess good insulating properties. The grades which are recommended particularly for insulating uses combine high dielectric resistance and mechanical strength with high insulating resistance, low power factor (low watt loss) and low moisture and oil absorption. Those grades which are particularly suitable for mechanical applications, are exceedingly strong and tough.

All grades of Micarta are easily machined, take a high polish and hold their original shapes under extreme service conditions and exposure to greatly different weather conditions. Some grades are infusible and unaffected by heat until the temperature is high enough to carbonize the material. Other grades are designed to soften very slightly at high temperatures to facilitate the punching of difficult shapes.

Micarta is insoluble in all known solvents. Dilute, non-oxidizing acids have little effect upon it. Concentrated sulphuric and nitric acids and concentrated solutions of alkalis attack Micarta causing it to swell.

Uses of Micarta.—The following list shows some of the ways in which Micarta is now being used:

Airplane firewalls, cabin lining, wing covering, pulleys, etc. Angles.

Bushings, brush holders, bus-bar insulation, bases, book covers, brackets.

Cord terminals, conduits, cleats, couplings, cable joints, channels, cores, counter tops.

Desk and bench tops, decorations, discs, drip guards, drip pans, doctor blades, dye sticks, door panels.

Entrance bushings, embossed washers.

Fan blades, fairleads, friction discs, furniture veneers.

Gears (industrial and automotive). Micarta gears are being used successfully on such small machines as speedometers, oscillographs, coffee grinders, and meat choppers, and with equal success on such heavy duty work as milling machines, high pressure pumps, and reversing planers; everywhere in fact, where durable, resilient, and quiet-running gears can be used.

Gaskets.

Handles, hospital tabletops.

Insulation, ignition coil boxes, impellers.

Jumper bushings.

Knobs.

Liners.

Markers, mandrels, miners' hats.

Name and number plates.

Ornamental display panels.

Pinions, pulleys, punchings, pistons, propellers, panels, pump washers, plating barrels.

Rail joint insulation, radio panels and parts, rayon spinning buckets and reels.

Serving trays, switchboards, switch bases, strain insulators, shims, spacers, spools, sash.

Transformer spacers, telephone apparatus, train line jumper, insulation.

Valve washers.

Veneering.

Washers, washing spindles, wall paneling, wainscoting.

X-ray transformer insulation.

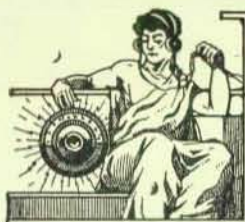
OUTDOOR SWITCH HOUSES

Application

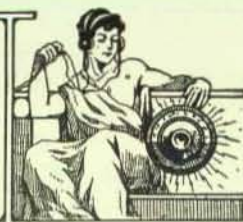
Outdoor switch houses in general are used to house feeder switching equipment and take the place of more expensive building structures. The units are very compact and house the necessary oil circuit-breakers, protective relays, and meters usually found on the standard indoor panels.

Outdoor switch houses are finished products which have been completely assembled, tested and inspected before shipment, and are ready for operation as soon as the main connections are connected to the roof bushings, joints taped, and the breaker tanks filled with oil.

These units are of a design that embodies as complete safety to operators and maintenance crew as any improved design of indoor switching equipment. Complete accessibility with minimum space requirement is also a feature of their design.



RADIO



WHAT ARE THE SHORT WAVES SAYING?

By AUSTIN C. LESCARBOURA, Member I. R. E., Member A. I. E. E.

There Is a World of Thrill and Romance Below the Usual Broadcast Band, Ready to be Tuned in With Short-Wave Receivers.

WITH radio broadcasting reduced to stereotyped perfection, it is generally admitted that the wonderful radio sets of today offer far less attraction than the crude, home-made, uncertain radio sets of a few years ago. Little wonder, therefore, that many dyed-in-the-wool radio enthusiasts spend more time with short-wave sets than they do with broadcast receivers; for below the broadcast band, in that tricky radio territory where nothing can be taken for granted, there is plenty of thrill and romance for anyone.

The usual broadcast receiver tunes over a range of 200 to 550 meters, officially speaking. Actually, the usual broadcast receiver goes down to about 185 meters and up to 600 meters. This makes things a bit more interesting, for some experimental broadcasting is done around 185 meters, while the radio marine traffic may be picked up around 600 meters. In other words, the set owner can step a bit outside the stereotyped broadcast territory, and get a touch of novelty. However, this is as nothing compared with what exists below 185 meters.

Fortunately, there are combination radio sets available today that combine the broadcast and short-wave bands. By interchangeable coils or some suitable switching scheme it is possible to tune in on usual broadcasting stations when genuine entertainment is desired, and on short-wave signals when thrill and romance are being sought.

Just below the broadcast band we tune in on the police radio alarm systems, picking up messages sent out by police radio

transmitters in various parts of the country. At night, these transmitters have a considerable range. A short-wave receiver in the east can generally tune in the police radio stations at Detroit, Lansing, Minneapolis, and other municipalities, even though the stations have a low wattage rating. A distance of 600 to 1,000 miles is quite common, although the stations are supposed to cover only local territory. The messages are intended for the police scout cars, equipped with short-wave receivers constantly tuned to their respective transmitters. The listener hears orders from headquarters to different scout cars. He hears descriptions of suspicious characters, of missing persons, of escaped criminals. He hears about "drunks," wife beaters, crooks, bootleggers and other underworld characters.

The television transmitters can also be heard slightly below the police radio transmitters, being in the neighborhood of 135 meters. The characteristic buzz-saw signals mean nothing, of course, unless they are fed into a radiovisor which converts them into pictures. However, the buzz-saw note is occasionally interrupted for an aural announcement which serves to identify the station.

Next come aircraft transmitters, occasionally picked up. The writer has had his greatest short-wave thrills listening to aviators flying over a given route, describing their observations. Some time ago the Bell Telephone System engineers were conducting a series of experiments between airplane and ground, with the two-way conversation made available to short-wave listeners-in.

There is no mistaking the 80-meter band, for there the radio amateurs hold forth with radio telephone as well as dot-dash

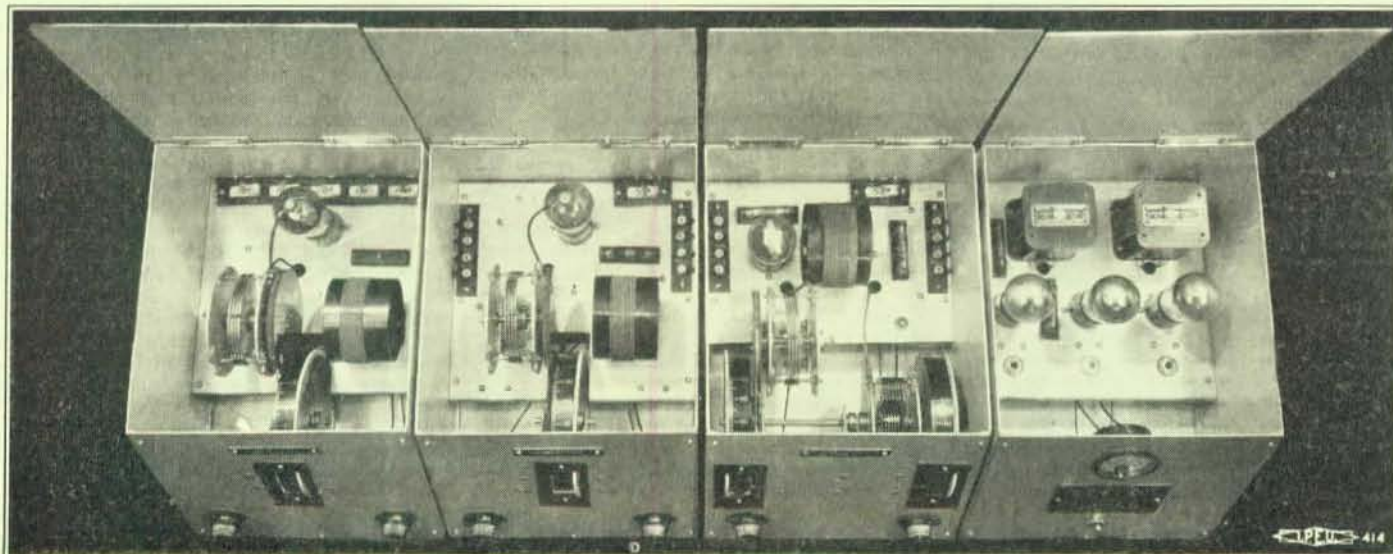
traffic. The radio telephone conversations between amateurs are most interesting, although a bit too technical for constant entertainment. The main joy here for one who does not care to listen to technical discussions is to listen to the call letters and locations of different amateur stations.

Reach Over-Seas Stations

Scattered throughout the short-wave band are radio telephone stations engaged in transmitting programs intended for distant listeners. Here in America we maintain a number of short-wave stations for the possible entertainment of overseas listeners, while overseas broadcasters return the compliment by maintaining similar stations. Of course the greatest pleasure in short-wave work is to tune in stations from distant lands. Under satisfactory conditions it is not difficult to tune in the G5SW of the British Broadcasting Corporation at Chelmsford, England. A station in Holland is readily tuned in. A station in Germany is more difficult to tune in, but is received on occasion. There is the Vatican City station, HVJ, which has a powerful signal, as well as an Italian short-wave station. Some American short-wave fans have tuned in short-wave stations in Soviet Russia, broadcasting in several languages so as to put over the Communistic doctrine to the greatest number of people, wherever the signals may reach.

The overseas signals are not so difficult to tune in, providing one knows when such stations are on the air and the approximate place on the dial to begin the careful searching. It requires skill and patience to tune in the weak overseas signals, under average conditions, although there are days when those signals are intercepted as read-

(Continued on page 558)



ONE OF THE MORE ELABORATE SHORT-WAVE RECEIVERS, WHICH TUNES IN SIGNALS FROM EVERY PART OF THE WORLD

EVERYDAY SCIENCE

New Gas Refrigerator Developed

A new mechanical refrigerator, entirely automatic and using gas for motive power, has been developed in a laboratory at Boston, Mass. This makes the fourth type of gas-fired refrigerator introduced in the United States during the past few years.

This new gas refrigerator is said to be revolutionary in design and has been under development during the past six years. It is entirely different from any other gas-fired refrigerator. The refrigerator is air-cooled, and mercury vapor heated by gas provides the energy. The refrigerating cycle is accomplished without the use of any internal pressure and the operation is said to be absolutely noiseless.

The construction is such that the unit may be placed in an individual refrigerator or located in the basement to furnish refrigeration for a number of apartments. It is also claimed that this new idea can be applied to house cooling systems, the development of which has occupied gas engineers for several years. Experiments along these lines give rise to the hope that houses in the near future can be both heated and cooled to a uniform temperature throughout the year by means of gas-fired apparatus.

Power Sources in the United States

Of all the power-generating sources in the United States, bituminous coal accounts for 50 per cent, petroleum in its various forms and by-products 23 per cent, water power 8 per cent, anthracite coal 7 per cent, natural gas 6 per cent, wood 5 per cent, and natural gasoline recovered from natural gas at the wells 1 per cent.

The form in which this energy reaches the public is varied. Bituminous coal, oil, anthracite coal, natural gas and wood are used largely to produce steam, which is converted into energy, either by means of steam engines or steam-driven electric generators. Water power, while a small proportion may be used for the direct generation of power through mechanical means, is largely used to produce electrical energy. A considerable amount of coal is also used to produce gas, some of which is used in the production of energy.

In the manufacture of gas the annual consumption of bituminous coal amounts to 9,700,000 tons, anthracite coal 400,000 tons, coke 4,200,000 tons, petroleum 23,000,000 barrels, natural gas 321,000,000,000 cubic feet, and coke oven gas 97,000,000,000 cubic feet. Expressed in the value of tons of coal, these various materials used in the manufacture of gas equal 32,500,000 tons of coal.

Air-Magnetic Brakes for Street Cars

Several years ago air brakes on street cars were supplemented by an emergency magnetic brake energized by current taken from the trolley wire. This consisted essentially of an electro-magnet in the form of a shoe, suspended between the wheels of the trucks, which was forced down against the rail by mechanical means to create a braking action due to the magnetic action of the electrical current.

Recently another form of this same brake has been attached directly behind the

after wheel of the truck, instead of between the wheels as in the former type.

There are two types of these magnetic brakes now in use. One is made by an emergency application of the air brakes. The other is under the control of the operator and is used to make regular stops. The control is so arranged that the magnet cannot stay energized indefinitely, but the time is automatically adjusted to last longer than that required to make the stops. The magnetic brake, however, can be released immediately upon release of the air brake, whether used as a service stop or an emergency stop.

Seven street railroads are now operating 75 of these equipments.

Tests have shown that with the air brake alone, a car traveling 20 miles per hour requires about six and one-half seconds to stop, whereas with the air and magnetic brakes combined, the time is reduced to five seconds. The time of stopping at high speeds is proportionately less for the air and magnetic brakes combined, as compared with the air brake alone, so that at 50 miles per hour the time required to bring the car to a stop with air brakes is 17 seconds, as compared with 12 seconds with the air and magnetic brakes combined.

The same difference also applies to the distance traveled after the brakes are applied. At 20 miles per hour with air brakes alone the car will travel approximately 100 feet, as compared with 60 feet with the air and magnetic brakes together. At 50 miles per hour the car will travel 650 feet before stopping with air brakes alone, as compared with 455 feet with the combined air and magnetic brakes.

These air-magnetic brakes permit of higher operating speeds of trolley cars without decreasing the safety of operation on the streets. Higher speeds are essential under present traffic conditions to enable the cars to gain speed quickly after stops, and thus reduce the running time between terminals.

Watts Versus Insects

The Mono Chromatic Light is the latest electrical weapon designed for the war to protect California's crops from insect pests. This device, invented and made by Professor W. B. Herms of the University of California, will be used to determine whether colored lights are more effective than white in the battle against insects.

The Mono Chromatic Light is shaped like a wagon wheel, with eight long compartments arranged with spokes around a large central chamber. One end of each of the eight chambers opens onto the larger one in the center and the other end is fitted with an electric lamp and a color screen, so that each can be flooded with a different colored light that is plainly visible in the central chamber.

During a test several thousand insects of the same family are placed in the large central chamber and then each small compartment is illuminated with a different hue. The insects enter the chamber lighted with the color that has the greatest attraction for them. Once inside they are trapped and a count can be taken to determine which color they flock to and which they shun. With this known, Professor Herms says, two courses are open. The

pests can be attracted by the use of their favorite colored light and then exterminated, or the color they avoid can be used to repel them from orchards or grain fields.

East Leads in Use of Electrical Energy

Over half of all the electricity generated in the United States is used in the northeastern part of the country. The group consisting of New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey uses practically one-fourth of all the electricity distributed, the total for 1929 being 24,860,000,000 kilowatt hours. Next is the section comprising Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin, with a total of 23,345,000,000 kilowatt hours. These groups, with New England (which uses 6,687,000,000 kilowatt hours), use more than one-half of all the electricity in the United States. The Pacific Coast states of California, Oregon and Washington use a total of slightly in excess of 12,500,000,000 kilowatt hours, whereas the south Atlantic states, extending from Pennsylvania south to Florida, not including Mississippi and Louisiana, use a total of just over 12,000,000,000 kilowatt hours.

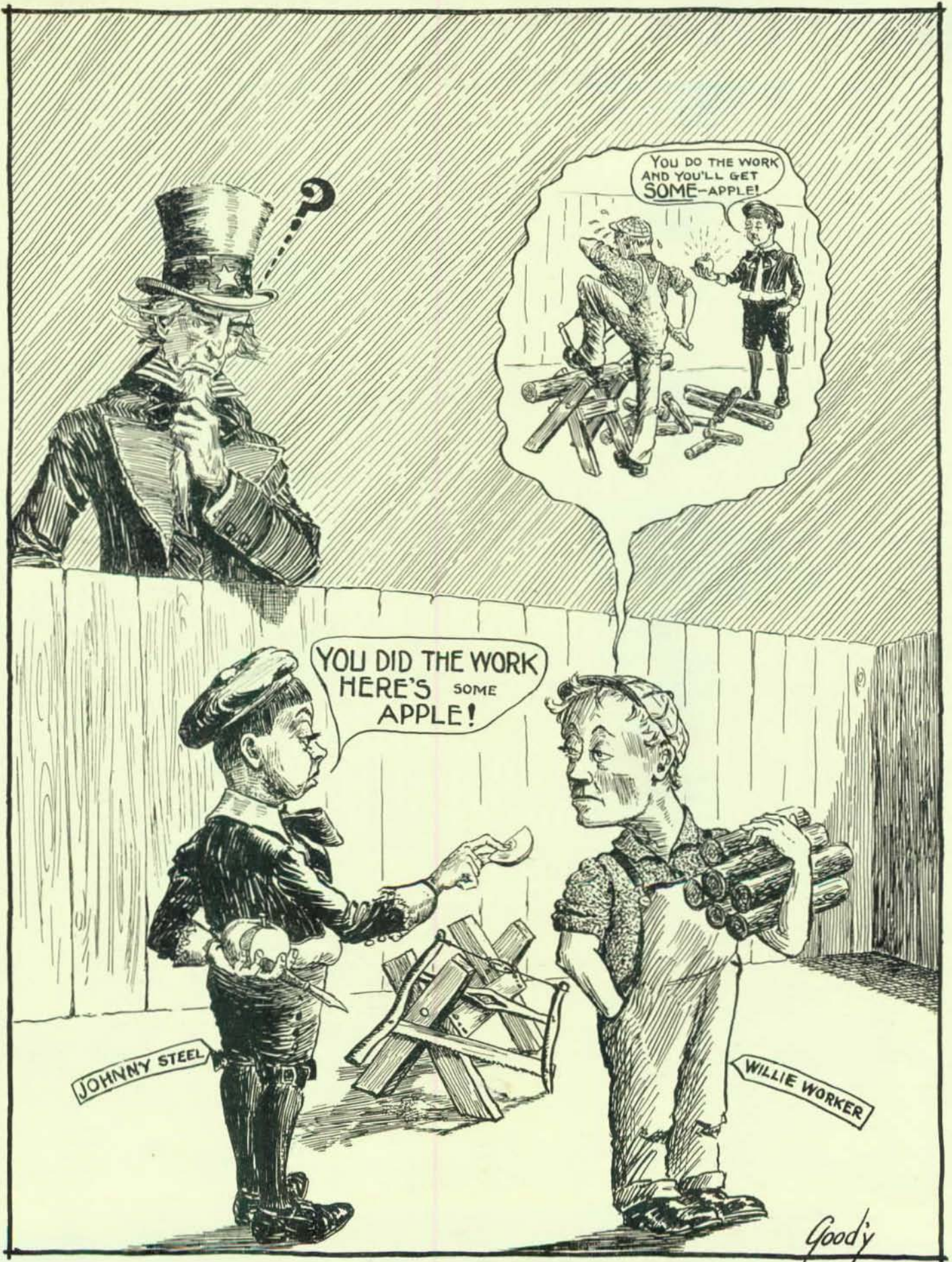
The per capita use for all of the United States based on population is 815 kilowatt hours per year. New England uses 820 kilowatt hours per capita. The highest per capita consumption of any section is in the three Pacific Coast states, with a total of 1,780 kilowatt hours. The second highest is in the Mountain states consisting of Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona, with a total of 1,020 kilowatt hours. This high consumption per capita is accounted for by the fact that large quantities of electricity are used in this section for mining and smelting, but the actual population is very small, so that the per capita use is high. New England with 820 kilowatt hours per capita actually uses nearly twice as much as all the Mountain states combined. The high per capita use in the Pacific Coast states, particularly California, is accounted for by the great quantity of electrical power which is used for pumping water and for other purposes.

Outdoor Swimming Pool Heated by Gas

The Farragut Swimming Pool in Brooklyn is said to be the largest swimming and bathing pool of its kind in the world, that is, an artificial pool constructed entirely for bathing and independent of any other organization. The pool is 75 feet wide by 200 feet long and varies in depth from 18 inches, at one end, to nine feet at the other, and contains approximately 400,000 gallons of water. The pool is entirely open to the sky and is kept filled with water at a temperature of 55 degrees Fahrenheit furnished by an artesian well. During the hot days the temperature rises considerably above this point, but during the evening hours, when the pool is largely patronized by people who work during the day, it has been advisable to heat the water to maintain a temperature of about 75 degrees. To accomplish this, an installation of gas-fired boilers was made to heat the water from the well prior to pumping into the pool. About 110,000 cubic feet of gas is necessary to provide the heat to bring the temperature of water up to 75 degrees each time the pool is filled.

WAGE PROMISES AND PERFORMANCES

Drawn especially for Electrical Workers Journal by Harrie S. Goodwin



ON EVERY JOB

There's a Laugh & Two

Work

A word of magic—sounding so sweet,
That causes eyes to sparkle and faces to smile;
When many "eagles' pictures" accompany it
One surely feels life worthwhile!
Don't abuse it while it's here,
Take utmost care to do it right;
And when it disappears, have no fear
For satisfaction will bring us more of
"de-light."
ABE GLICK,
L. U. No. 3.
New York City.

This is a continuation of the "Dream of Boulder Dam," in the June issue:
And then methought the dream was changed,
Without weeping the story I cannot tell:
It was not Uncle Sam I was working for,
But the Six Big Companies, and the dam
was in hell.

The wages were low, the grub was high,
The drinking water hot, I thought I'd die.
They let me work long enough a ticket to buy
Then did the same thing to the next poor
guy.
"POET,"
Local No. 291.

We're much obliged to Claud Phipps, of Local No. 18, Los Angeles, for his "poetic efforts," which will be published as opportunity permits, and here's the first installment:

The Facts

If I only knew the facts as they really are,
I wonder if I'd think as I do now? I wonder
if I'd censure or even go so far as to doubt
the man who's plugging hard, and how!
When we've put a man in office, our duty
doesn't end, he'll be needing our support in
many ways. He'll be a better man than I am
if his courage doesn't bend, a-working out
our problems nights and days.

He'll know a lot of facts, maybe things
we'll never know; half the planning and the
sparrings never told. He'll be always on a
tension and ever on the go, while the worry
and the battle make him old.

If you want a little proof, this is on the up
and up, just suppose you try to organize a
friend. You'll keep an even temper and
you'll take a lot of lip if your effort's not a
failure in the end. When he counters with
his reason, yes, reason of a sort, you'll be
groping, you'll be sweating for the fact.
You'll realize your apathy's caused your
vision to distort; 'twill be good to have your
brain a little racked.

If you survive the struggle and you really
are a sport, you might take on an ex-mem-
ber, maybe two. Tackle a gabby scabby and
trade logic for retort, also revive a bunch of
Brothers weak and blue.

This is just a sample; multiply it many
times. Throw in a bunch of locals on the
fritz, 'cause they don't pull together any bet-
ter than my rhymes, and you "gotto" count
on errors well as hits.

To the leaders of our Brotherhood all this
is daily do; they contract business and close
agreements on the side. But we are in the
front line trenches and have our duty, too,
and we must all pull together far and wide.

Believing that all good Americans should
strive to relieve the depression and prevent
another, a patriotic little woman pens the
Brunswick Pilot that she is ready to do her
part, "but first," she requests, "please ex-
plain to me what is keeping the times so
hard?" "Lady," truthed the editor, "hard
times is a period when people quit feeding
the cow, and wonder why she gives less
milk."

Narrowback Stuff

Did you ever see plaster fall
From some place where you had to crawl?
It's an awful feeling,
When you hear the ceiling,
Crashing down below in the hall!
W. H. HENDRICK,
Local No. 7.

Apology of a Crepe Hanger

Please let me apologize
For darkening the skies.
That, I should not have done
On a page meant for fun.

Though things look tearful
Let us be cheerful.
There'll be a brighter day
When the panic goes away.

LEROY R. POPE.
L. U. No. 640.

Hiking Poles and Shooting Trouble

"Back in 1913, when I was hiking toll line
poles for Mother Bell," says G. H. Monsive of
Local No. 595, "we were reaching the out-
skirts of Ranger, Texas. We came past
some nigger shanties, and at about the
third one a 200-pound mammy spotted us
and yelled out to a couple of pickaninnies
that were playing under a tree:

"Yo chillun come in dis heah house dis
minute. Yonder come dem linemen. Bring
in dat pet rooster, too; they steal anything."

"The next week I was in the office cutting
in the new leads, when the manager's phone
rang. After a brief conversation with the
party on the other end, he yelled at me,
'Come on, boy, the toll line is on fire down
by the cotton gin.' On arriving at the
scene we found an excited woman standing
across the road from the gin pointing at
the fire, which wasn't a fire at all, but
merely the fiery reflection of the slanting
afternoon sun on the new leads, making it
appear that the wires were on fire.

"In 1914 I was shooting trouble at San
Antonio, Texas, and a case of a noisy phone
came to me from a rural subscriber. I
found that the subscriber had a large dog
tied to a chain, and to give the dog enough
space to run, its owner would hook the
chain to a low-hanging iron wire. The dog
would drag the chain back and forth, slid-
ing it on the wire. This was one case of
trouble I didn't shoot.

"Those were the happy days, when every
job supplied a few amusing incidents. Now,
no jobs, no stories. But my friend Jim
Orblick says he owns a set of 'Hoover
pockets.' I asked him what he meant by
'Hoover pockets,' and he said, 'Nothing in
'em.'"

Needed—a He Man

Transports sailing through the air
Every minute or so.
One would think that we were busy
Always on the go.
Hungry people walk the streets,
Search in vain for work.
Whole darn country's on the bum
Through some peculiar quirk.
"Peculiar quirk," my eye;
What can you expect
When every time we make a ton
The boss gives us a peck?
No wonder that his stuff stacks up
And we can't buy it back;
We're steering wrong; the old ship's stalled;
Let's try a different tack.
Stalin runs the Bolsheviks,
Rules with iron hand.
Mussolini runs the "Wops"
In macaroni land.
Mellon runs the U. S. A.,
Though using "Herbie's" name;
The "cock-eyed" country's 'bout run down
And Hoover gets the blame.
What we need's an hones' leader,
One with lots o' "guts";
One who'll stick with all the people
An' not be driven "nuts"
By financial quacks and "optimists" and
"Diplomats" and then
Use every means within his power
To wind 'er up again.

By A. WIREMAN.
Local No. 428.

Collecting Damages

A policeman was walking his beat in a
residential district, when a badly battered
house-to-house salesman rushed up to him.
"Say, officer," he panted, pointing to a
red-headed iceman who had just climbed on
to his wagon and was starting off, "I want
that man arrested. Just look what he did to
me!"

Stalking out into the street, the policeman
majestically waved the ice wagon to halt and
demanded, "Did you hit this man?"

"Oi did," was the shameless response.
"What for?"

"Alienation av affections," the ice carrier
replied. "He sold Bridget Nolan's missus
wan av thim electric ice boxes."

Speed Artist

Contractor to new wireman on its first
day on the job.

"Are you a fast worker?"

"Fast?" grunted the wireman, "Why, man,
I am so fast that I can switch off the light
and be in bed before the room is dark."

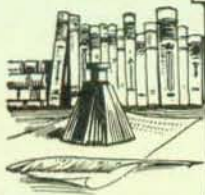
G. L. MONSIVE,
Local No. 595.

Wife (looking up from magazine)—"I've
just read an article about electricity, Henry,
and it says that before long we shall get
everything we want by just touching a
button."

Henry (sadly)—"It won't do us any good."

Wife—"Why not, Henry?"

Henry—"Because nothing would ever
make you touch a button. Look at my shirt."



CORRESPONDENCE



L. U. NO. 1, ST. LOUIS, MO.

Editor:

There is nothing slow about Local Union No. 1. While other unions are crying for shorter working hours and a five-day week, Local Union No. 1 has been enjoying that privilege for quite awhile. Get that! Old No. 1, while she is hampered in many ways, has always shown the spirit to advance, and is one of the first locals in the country to enter upon new enterprises in order to overcome the obstacles which confront its members and which while usually successful have on several occasions proven detrimental.

One of the disasters, the old split, in after years became a good experience, for while No. 1 came through the conflict pretty badly beaten, her members learned the meaning of a real labor split. With this to look back on, L. U. No. 1 has been progressing until just a couple of years ago when several new movements did not pan out so well. But through these experiences we realize that these are but trials, and therefore we patiently stand by and watch these various movements materialize or be destroyed according to their merit. But the five-day week and the six-hour day will stand. True to the purpose of the movement, Local Union No. 1 is progressing. ROBERT B. MILLER.

L. U. NO. 8, TOLEDO, OHIO

Editor:

The meetings of Local No. 8 are still being well attended in spite of the fact that things are very dull here at present. Work is pretty scarce here now and the fact that four major banks and their numerous branches closed their doors here last month does not improve the situation any. About 150,000 depositors' accounts are tied up on account of this, and I should say that it affects about 75 per cent of the working people of Toledo. Most of the locals here have their funds in these banks, including ourselves.

A great number of those who have been out of work for a long time, and had something saved up to live on this winter, will be in a bad situation. The banks are working toward a reorganization plan after which liquidation is supposed to take place. We all hope to get 100 cents on the dollar but will consider ourselves lucky if we get any lesser amount whatever it may be.

On top of this situation the city of Toledo must reduce its budget because the taxes have not been coming in as they should. The mayor proposes to accomplish this by putting wage reductions in effect in all city departments. Local No. 8 has adopted a resolution condemning this wage cutting plan and copies are to be sent to city council and also a committee from the local to protest.

I expect to have additional reports on these conditions for next month's article, so until then keep your chin up.

HARRY B. VAN FLEET.

L. U. NO. 26, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Editor:

Well, it won't be long now. Old Man Winter himself is coming down the line and with him he'll bring plenty of misery for some

READ

Democracy, how and when, by L. U. No. 508.

Canadian Congress offers remedies, by L. U. No. 230.

Folly of wage-cuts, by L. U. No. 113.

President Broach on Pacific Coast, by L. U. No. 413.

Springfield says "go", by L. U. No. 193.

Union Labor gets another monument, by L. U. No. 1141.

Egyptian mummies in the shadowy recess of some ancient tomb, by L. U. No. 284.

Remember the unemployed brother, by L. U. No. 212.

They don't falter—rain nor snow, nor misfortune nor depression can dampen ardor, or stale the wit of our men.

people, I guess, but I believe we, of the navy yard local, will escape some of his wrath. Somehow or other, when the cold weather descends upon our members they get more ambitious and being that way we have a better attendance at our meetings. And not only that, we have more luck in recruiting duty. The writer expects to see at least a dozen or more new members sign on the dotted line before the spring rolls around. So you see instead of the boys sticking close to their firesides we see them also deserting them at least one night a month for the "good of our union."

Our meeting in September was a little too tame to speak of, outside of a little difference existing between the Metal Trades Council, which the electricians are affiliated with, and the machinists at the yard, there wasn't much doing. It seems some time ago the machinists, who, by the way, are the most powerful of the various crafts here at the yard, refused to come into the Metal Trades Council and there lies the friction. There's been a movement under way for a long time to get us a new cafeteria here, and while the machinists are the power behind such a move, it seems they want a little help from some one else, and the some one else is the Metal Trades Council. What transpired at our meeting concerning such help to put the new cafeteria across reminds me of the man who was crying out for some one to save him from drowning. When some bystander, hearing the shouts, cried out to the drowning man, "Where's your money?" the reply was that he didn't have any, so then the would-be rescuer shouted back, "You may as well stay where you are; you're no good to me!" So to me it seems the Metal Trades Council is willing to help, but what kind of help no one knows. Anyway, it should be straightened out with the least possible friction and I hope it will be; we can't afford to buck the machinists, nor they us, over such a trifling matter. If every man brought his own lunch we would all have plenty to eat, and look what great friends we'd all be.

Brother Steuart was named as a delegate to attend the retirement convention which is being held in New York City. All the navy yard, and arsenals are represented at this convention for the purpose of looking out for our interest regarding retirement matters, etc. Brother Steuart was the logical man to send to the big town, as he has made a deep study of retirement legislation and he is acquainted with all the details of such a complicated program. We hope he'll bring us back some real good news of the doings in New York.

Brother Cameron has returned from "sunny" Alabama and reports back everything is "hotsy totsy" down there. He has been assured by some of his "constituents" down there that they are through voting for Robert E. Lee. I wonder?

TOM CRANN.

L. U. NO. 28, BALTIMORE, MD.

Editor:

After a careful perusal of the contents of this issue from cover to cover, we've come to the conclusion that this is about the "newsiest" copy we've had the privilege to read in many a day.

Here we learn of the terrible farce that is perpetrated at the Boulder Dam job. Farce in so far as the worker is concerned but tremendous success for the downright heartless and relentless employer. In this vivid article we see the worker exploited to the very skin of his teeth. Spoiled food is fed him, an extremely hazardous environment is his home and even the elements conspire to torture most cruelly his body and soul. He is paid a pitiful sum, in striking contrast to the labor he performs. What he does earn is nearly all taken from him by various charges made for food and shelter.

The success for the employer lies in the fact that by pushing the men to the limit the job is six months ahead of schedule. This resulted in a refusal to demands of striking workers for more humane consideration—the fact that the employers could afford to wait.

Even Uncle Sam has a hand in constructing this project and ignoring the needs of the workers. During the strike the threat of troops was used to intimidate the employees. Here is indeed a living example of man's inhumanity to man. We needn't mention that workers are dying like flies on this project due to the terrific and unbearable heat and rotten food.

Now we come to the extremely interesting and prophetic story of Brother C. H. Rohrer, of L. U. No. 428, in which he lives in the year 1951 and looks back to the year 1931. This Brother is indeed gifted with a remarkable prophetic gift in which he portrays numerous radical changes in modes of living, working and governing. The story is indeed fascinating and many of the ideas appear to be really sound and novel. Brother Rohrer, accept the congratulations and good wishes for continued success in writing from an humble scribe who enjoyed reading your story.

As for Brother Broach's timely and pointed comments, need we add our superfluous comment? The Brother, evidently, is a remarkable student of human nature. We see nu-

merous times where his opinions and comment fit in, or better yet, dovetail exactly with some of our observations locally. How that man can find all that time to write and write something really worth while is beyond our comprehension. This is no observation by a yes man either.

After reading the WORKER through we're left in a state of great suspense. This caused by the announcement that something of great

interest is to be announced next month. Something different than heretofore written. Between the heat and this suspense we're uncertain as to what to expect next.

Locally, things show no signs whatever of improvement. We've hoped, prayed and lived in a state of expectancy but fate will not have it any other way. We do hate to bring out the old sob stuff, but there is a limit to endurance, you know, and, after all,

optimism is a great thing, but we simply can't go on kidding ourselves eternally. The picture does look black. We'll still be on the lookout for that so-called silver lining on the big black cloud.

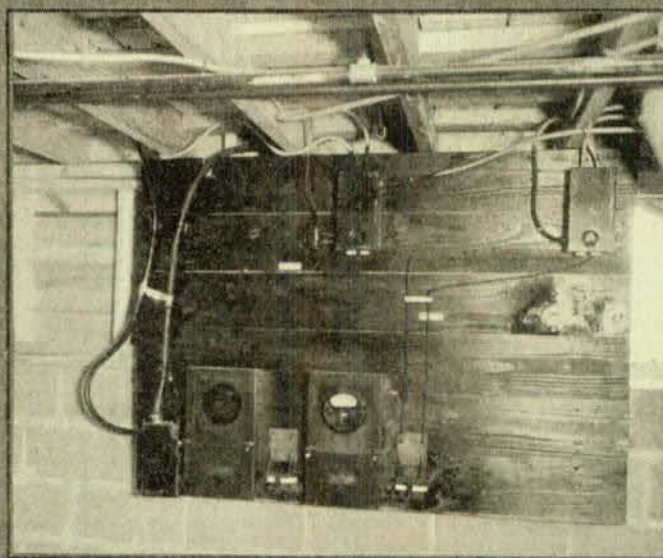
Personally we can inform the world we have an additional mouth to feed; that makes it two youngsters—both boys; thanks. Now we think we're supposed to be happy and all that. We are that, but, boy, that

BUFFALO GUARDS STANDARDS OF WORK



Above: use of soft cable means deterioration of standards. This job is dangerous and untidy.

Below: showing inside installation of soft cable. Note the ground conduit at the left of board



Above: neat, safe, enduring, a rigid conduit job means satisfaction to the owner; reflects credit to the workmen who installed it, and lessens fire risks

(Courtesy Otto C. Holzer)

LOCAL UNION NO. 41 IS CAREFUL THAT ONLY CRAFTSMANSHIP OF THE HIGHEST STANDARD IS APPROVED.

mortgage we've got to pay off on the new-comer just puts another load on our back. Well, such is life. Grin and bear it, we guess.

We very nearly neglected to mention that the compulsory assessment that was to be placed on the employed members has already gone into effect. The boys pay 10 per cent of their net earnings into an unemployment fund to help support those out of work. How the plan will work out remains to be seen as it's still young.

Now we wish to thank Brother Bill Farber, of Local No. 3, for his thoughtful gift to our newcomer. The boy does know what to pick for the youngsters. Thanks, Bill, the lady joins me in this.

R. S. ROSEMAN.

L. U. NO. 60, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Editor:

Well, I see by the papers that the "suppression" is still going strong. Several large corporations have announced wage cuts for the near future, which surely ought to help prosperity around that corner; of course, it might be it is headed the wrong way.

I have been wondering for some time whether or not any of the prophets who were telling us about prosperity being just around the corner really knew which way it was traveling.

Methinks it might need the treatment that a cattle stampede gets, a few good cowboys to head it and start it milling and then when it settled down start it in the opposite direction.

I also saw by the papers that one political party claims there is nothing wrong, just that the other political party's propaganda has every one so scared of destitution that no one will buy anything which causes the depression that ain't.

Local No. 60 still has a large number in the unemployed class, in fact, I am not sure it would not be better to say that we have a small number in the employed class.

And the dime for a cup of coffee and doughnut class on the streets—oh, my! We have them with us always, on account of our luxurious climate, I suppose, but now you sure have to be hard boiled indeed if you can save out enough for yourself, and I have yet to find one who admitted being a native. They are from the far corners and their trades vary from miners to parachute jumpers.

Why come to good old "Santone"? The same old answer, I guess—the salubrious climate. Of course, it is not far to the border on the other side of which pre-Volstead conditions still exist.

There are no rosy prospects for the electrical game this winter. Last year we had some indoor golf links to wire, but that epoch has passed. Perhaps some one will start a chain of midget indoor horse race tracks or sumpin', for which we will be thankful. All we ask is that someone will want something in the electrical line and soon.

WM. L. CANZE.

L. U. NO. 77, SEATTLE, WASH.

Editor:

In 1925, the delegates to the Brotherhood Convention listened to an address by Robert H. Harlin, of the trade union movement.

Brother Harlin chose for his subject "The Man With the Hoe", and sketched the picture it presented—the man in the field at evening tide, stooped and worn.

The speaker also sketched the progress that labor had made since that time, when labor was no longer content to toil to the

last ounce of energy; when labor was no longer content to live a life bowed down by toil; when labor was no longer content that the wife and children should be used as beasts of burden, but that labor had passed through that stage and was now insisting on their full share of the products of their minds and hands. And he convincingly told that the progress made from that time to this was due to one thing, and that was organization. He complimented the electrical workers on the part that they played in that program.

Seattle has just had another election in which the mayor was recalled. One of the principal causes of dissatisfaction was the fact that J. D. Ross, superintendent of the City Light Department, had been discharged. The result was that the city council elected Brother Harlin to be mayor of the city of Seattle. One of his first acts was to reappoint Mr. Ross to his old position, which met with the approval of the entire community.

Brother Harlin, or "Bobby", as he is better known, is one of the best-known and best-liked members of the labor movement in the state of Washington. He is a man who has always stood for the principles of the movement. And furthermore, he will make good on his present job.

He brings to the city government a wealth of experience that is possessed by few men. Born in Cumberland, England, in 1883; started work in the coal mines at the age of 12. Tales told of the opportunity to be found in North America excited him and caused him in his early teens to migrate to British Columbia.

Twenty-five years of age, he married Sarah Hind, at Vancouver, B. C. He was still working in coal mines. In 1907, he moved his family to Seattle, seeking employment for himself in the Cle Elum mines. In 1910, when he was 26 years old, he was elected president of the United Mine Workers in Washington. Two years later he became a member of the international executive board and in 1917 editor of the United Mine Workers' Journal.

Somewhat later he became statistician for the United Mine Workers and was assigned to work in cooperation with the federal fuel administration during the World War, a position he filled so satisfactorily that he was assigned to accompany Dr. Henry A. Garfield, federal fuel administrator, when the latter attended the Paris peace conference.

Later, Brother Harlin was assigned by President Wilson to work with Herbert Hoover and Col. E. M. House in France and with Minister Brand Whitlock in Belgium on fuel supplies for those nations.

Prior to his election as a member of the Seattle City Council he was secretary of the Seattle Central Council Trade Union Promotional League and also served as secretary of the Washington Federation of Labor.

The principles of the labor movement that have been part of his life are still retained by him and the labor movement and the city as a whole will be the gainer for his administration.

Brother Harlin requests the writer to extend his greetings to the members of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and to wish them every success.

FRANK TUSTIN.

L. U. NO. 84, ATLANTA, GA.

Editor:

Yes, we are still out on a lock-out with the Georgia Power Company and Allied Engineers, which will explain why we have not contributed to the WORKER each month, and another reason, the old scribe was locked out on the wrong side and we have been too

busy trying to keep those birds like him locked out where they belong that we have not had time to do anything but yell "scab!" and try to get something to eat. Most of our members have been able to do a few odd jobs, and I want to say here that our friends have helped all they have been able, and we have had wonderful co-operation from all branches of organized labor.

Say, Brother, when we get those scabs locked where they belong we are going to throw the key away, and from the way the gang is sticking together it won't be long now.

A few days ago we were all pepped up but it turned out like a fellow fishing, when all the little fish nibble at your bait until you have to put a new live bait on—that is what we are doing and it surely is a fine time to catch big fish, and all the gang are after the same fish.

You can bet on old Local No. 84 to fight hard and fair until the victory is won for organized labor.

Most of the jobs have been filled with scab labor, so you know what that means, and this is going to be the best example for the power trust to put down in their little red book they have ever had, and I expect they will mark the spot, "Here lies the remains of scab labor, killed in the worst battle ever known with Local Union No. 84, I. B. E. W., Atlanta, Ga." But the old banner of Local Union No. 84 will be flying high, carried by real men, and everybody saying, "Another battle won for a good cause."

We are planning on a big showing here Labor Day, and just a tip, this is going to be a sure enough labor parade, one that you like to see, all crafts organized for the same purpose.

I will close this letter with the promise to give you more details on how our affairs are coming along next month.

W. D. MARTIN.

L. U. NO. 90, NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Editor:

In these days of unemployment and general hard luck, it is a pleasure to be able to report something cheerful. Don't get excited, Brothers, we didn't get a steady job or a raise or any such thing.

The fact is we were all very well pleased to hear that Governor Cross, our newly elected state leader, attended the convention of the Connecticut Federation of Labor, thereby establishing a precedent, of which fact he was well aware. I quote the governor, "There seems to be some doubt as to just how I stand on the labor question. In order that I may make my stand clear, permit me to say I am for organized labor."

Such a declaration by the state's chief executive in the face of open shop drives and open hostility on the part of prominent builders organizations is indeed encouraging. But still more good news tends to keep our spirits up. The city election is scheduled for November and without any claim of prophetic power I report our next mayor will be John W. Murphy. Mr. Murphy is not only a friend of labor, but has been a member of the cigarmakers union all his life. Their business representative for a number of years and has held the office of president of the New Haven Trades Council uncontested each year for seven years.

With two such men to inspire and aid us we certainly feel that our cause is not hopeless. As in most places, New Haven has a great army of unemployed and what unemployment relief work is being done is of little value to the skilled worker. Our relief committee is quietly and efficiently doing its work and although a large number of our men are out of work, we are trying to carry

on until we reach that corner around which prosperity is rumored to be hiding. One of the boys suggests that he is going to take a vacation and spend all his time in the round-house because he is tired looking around corners.

Our annual outing was held in August and the committee arranged matters so that all the boys, whether employed or not, could attend. The affair was a huge success and the members of the committee are to be congratulated.

Brother Keaveney, International Vice President, pays us a visit now and then and he and Brother Tierney are a team hard to beat when it comes to matters requiring tact and an application of the present day policies of the Brotherhood. President Broach's article on "Strikes" was published on the editorial page of a local newspaper recently with favorable comment in a footnote by the Editor. Well, here's hoping we live long and never get out of step.

JOHN J. MCCURRY.

L. U. NO. 113, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO.

Editor:

We are beginning to feel the wage cut movement here. It is called a "condition you can't combat," "a national movement irresistible in its sweep." So is some big bully irresistible until he is stopped. And very often it takes just a little man to trip him up.

One of the building trades contractors, a city father, public (?) spirited fellow, much in the public eye, started it, mainly, I think, for the gratification of his own vanity. He has been putting on the screws for months, no smoking, no talking, no pick-up time, and leaving the job after all the other crafts were well on their way home. He cut the unorganized laborers, and helps a dollar a day and the local said nothing beyond "I hope we don't get it."

Of course, they got it; and when the labor commission disallowed the cut, they accepted it when they found out that the other contractors would be forced to meet this shop's prices. Then on top of that they allowed it to be published as a "voluntary acceptance." I feel it is no disgrace to be licked in a scrap, but to take it lying down is something else.

Can't we sell the merchants in our towns the necessity of maintaining our buying power and with it our standard of living?

Let's figure it out: In our local, for the inside men, we enjoyed better time than the average perhaps: 49.7 per cent man days for the year. Call it 50 per cent. In our small town we claim about 2,000 members of organized labor. Fifty per cent working 300 days a year. Cut 1,000 men \$1.50 a day and the merchants lose approximately \$450,000 worth of business a year. Cut the unorganized the same amount or even less per day and there will be another \$500,000. In a town of 40,000 what will happen when the merchants lose \$1,000,000 worth of business in a year and also are asked to feed the starving horde to boot? Shortly the banks will control the business and policies of every merchant in the town.

What good will or can a 20 per cent cut do? On a \$20,000 general contract, it's a good electrical job that will run five per cent of the total, or \$1,000. The journeyman gets approximately 30 per cent of this or \$300. A 20 per cent cut of the wages of journeymen would mean \$60. If five crafts were all cut, there might be a saving of \$300. I say "might" advisedly; in the cases I have noticed the men who used to give \$9.50 worth of work in eight hours are now giving from \$6 to \$8 worth. Now, would a saving of

\$300 on a \$20,000 job start a general business boom in the city? Personally, I think not. If a man or corporation had to have the building, they would build anyway, and if not they would wait until they could get it for the cost of the material alone.

They say the offensive is the best defensive. What we should do right now is to fall in line with the policies of the A. F. of L. and go after a shorter day and five-day week for the same weekly wage. That would give some of our unemployed a chance to make their bread and butter and also perhaps scare some brains into the heads of our crepe-hangers.

Anyhow, we'd better organize ourselves before some of the hungry seekers after food and clothing organize themselves and start "sump'n'."

O. F. WILLIS.

L. U. NO. 125, PORTLAND, OREG.

Editor:

Well, Mr. Editor, the deer season is open, and I would fain hie me hence to the slopes of the Panther Butte. Copious rains have fallen and the fire hazard is reduced to a minimum. But the problems of transportation and sustenance have not as yet been solved. And it does not now appear that they soon will be. So, though I hate to disappoint you, it may be that I shall not be able to take you with me up the trails this year. However, I have not despaired as yet.

But there are, as usual, compensations. By having to delay my annual pilgrimage I shall be here during the brief visit of President Broach, en route to the A. F. of L. convention in Seattle. We expect Brother Broach the last of this month, and are arranging for a joint meeting of all the locals in this vicinity at the time of his visit. Personally I shall very much appreciate the privilege of meeting and becoming acquainted with Brother Broach at first hand, and I have learned to admire his ability in the office in which he serves.

The Oregon State Federation of Labor convention is over, and I have not yet learned of any world-startling events or episodes arising therefrom. I do not mean to belittle the state federation or its convention. A good and profitable meeting was held and much serious work accomplished. But there was not much, perhaps, that would be of interest to the majority of readers of our JOURNAL, and the local readers, of course, were able to follow the deliberations in the daily papers.

One action that was taken affords me some cause for mental speculation, and perhaps a little amusement of an ironic nature. The convention went on record as favoring a modification of the Volstead Act!

I, Mr. Editor, went "dry" at a very early age, as a result of personal observation of the evils of unrestricted alcohol. My father was a total abstainer, as was his father. But I was born in a sawmill and raised in a logging camp, so to speak; I put in four years in the U. S. Navy, had relatives who were typical early day gold miners, and I've followed the electrical game for 25 years. So I have had plenty of opportunity to observe first-hand and dispassionately the epic of booze as she is drunk. I see no profit in arguing the question from a moral, social or gustatory viewpoint here. Those are considerations for the individual. But economically—there's a problem. I well remember the universal verdict that acknowledged prohibition as a benefit to the working man, within the first few years after its enactment. I am sure that any man who is honest with himself will realize that clearing the booze from the mind of labor was

the first step toward teaching it logical thinking. In the early days it was easy for the employer to get the leaders drunk, and put over conditions suitable to his policy. Then they could get the rank and file drunk and keep them satisfied with things. Labor began to progress noticeably as soon as prohibition went into effect. How soon do we forget! Behold now the A. F. of L. campaigning for the return of its worst enemy! Of course, they only want "light wines and beer," and all that sort of thing. Funny, isn't it? Ninety-five per cent of the cases of drunken automobile drivers arrested here in the past few months have confessed to having had "just a few drinks of beer." They tell us it is "costing too much to enforce prohibition." How will they lessen the cost by making the dividing line 2.75 per cent instead of one per cent or less? I have never forgotten that statistics in this city showed the sale of twice as many baby shoes in the first year of prohibition as for any previous year. It is something to think about.

But, Mr. Editor, aside from all that it is my firm opinion that resolutions on or about liquor have no place in labor meetings or conventions. No more than have religious discussions. Those are controversial questions to be decided between the individual and his conscience (if any) and have no direct bearing on the functions of a labor union. We all have seen how liquor can slow up and hinder the business of a meeting when some Brother "rises to ask" and stumbles with a thick tongue through a question, the answer to which he is unable to understand with a mind made thicker by the same agency.

It would seem that the interests who favor the return of liquor are skillfully using the labor organizations as media for propaganda, and that to the ultimate detriment of the organizations themselves. But let them go ahead. When this wage-cutting orgy is finished and the working man has been put down to virtual slavery, it will be well that he be able to purchase with the few cents left him the means wherewith to drown his woes. Enough of us will, perhaps, be left clear-eyed to operate the machines that will take the place of manpower. But what of them? It still "takes money to buy whiskey." Better have the A. F. of L. observe the Volstead Act and get down to its own very serious business.

Otherwise, things are much the same. The Portland G. E. Company will put the five-day week into effect in all departments except operating, this coming month (October). The operating department will doubtless follow shortly after. Northwestern Electric is operating on a five-day week basis now. It looks like we are very fortunate to have an agreement signed up for the coming year with the P. G. E. Company. In all probability we have now met the worst, and can look forward to better things.

"Hoping you are the same."

D. B. SIGLER.

L. U. NO. 136, BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

Editor:

Isn't it strange that every time one sits down to write a letter to the WORKER the first idea he has is about depression? It seems to be on everybody's mind and lips. Possibly that is the reason for the "popularity" of depression! However, in writing, I am going to try to employ autosuggestion and write about things more pleasant.

We are just about to close another quarter. Like a baseball team, I believe this has been our "spurt." The only thing that keeps our heads above the water is about

once, and sometimes twice, a year, for a short period, we have a "spurt." Some call it a "break." Just about the time you think you are sunk—you can't see how you can hold out much longer and you can't see how in the world you can make another raffle—you get a break! Isn't it so, Brothers? Well, such has been this quarter period for us. Some less fortunate will possibly disagree with me but I am not speaking about all of our unemployed but a larger percentage of them. This quarter has been a break for them. Possibly next month the ones who didn't get it this time will next time. And so we hang on waiting for the next break. Some have wondered how we do it. But, to my mind, that is the secret of our success thus far. So keep a stiff upper lip, Brothers; don't weaken, and, unless I am badly mistaken, we will come out at the big end of the horn.

We haven't had anything big here to get excited about. No building boom, by any means, but several unfinished jobs, some smaller jobs and a few new ones started. Among them was the completion of a new \$3,000,000 court house that has employed several of our men for the past three months. A six or seven-story Medical Arts Building and a United States Veterans Hospital that is located a little way out of town. All jobs have about wound up except the hospital, which will run for several months yet. So much for our "prosperity"!

We have just completed, and were successful in having signed up, a new contract.

Fortunately we maintained our wage scale of \$1.25 per hour in addition to our conditions. In our new contract we are speculating with some changes to try to raise the standards of the electrical business. If successful, no doubt our contractors will adopt a slogan that will read something like this: "Up to a standard and not down to a price!" There was some doubt as to its success. That is left to be seen. Of course, it is still in its infancy but to this writer's mind it has proven a success so far and will get better as it has more time to shape up. One contractor said it was the best and most businesslike he had ever had presented to him.

I would like to say a word to Brothers who are prone to violate the working rules of a contract, who give the contractors more than they bargain for and when questioned say, "To hell with the local. I'm going to look out for number one. The local never gave me anything!" What a foolish idea and what a foolish attitude to take. When questioned further they say they have to do that to hold a job because every one else is doing it. If they don't do it, somebody else will, etc. We've all heard the same old story told and re-told. Brothers, the local is here for your benefit and your protection. The service of this organization is yours for the asking. But they can not help you if you do not confide in them. The business manager is only too glad to help you correct any adverse conditions that may exist in your shop. There is no use to

try to hide behind a flimsy alibi and say, "That's the business agent's job. Let him catch them. If I open my mouth I will be pegged." Ain't that a nice statement coming from a full grown, supposed-to-be man? I wish every man in the local could be business manager for just a month. I believe it would be for the benefit of the organization. Listen! The business agent is only one man! He can't be everywhere at once! He will be glad to help you right any wrong, any time, day or night. And, above all things, he is confidential. Try it and see. The men in the shops are the ones to wake up. You know everything that is going on in your shop. It will be a very easy matter after you leave the shop and get to your job to step to a telephone and give the business agent a ring and tell him to investigate such and such thing. What do you think of that? On the Q. T., too. No need for publicity. No need to get pegged. Just co-operation, that's all! Try it next Saturday morning and see. When we do that, and not until then, the five-day week will be a success. The idea of the five-day week was to give more men work for less time. In that respect, here, it has been a dismal failure. "There are plenty of horses, if they'll all pull together."

We were very pleased to have the assistance of Brother G. X. Barker during the drafting and negotiations of our new contract. To say that he was instrumental and a great help to us is putting it mildly. We are always glad to have Brother Barker "back home" and always feel a certain amount of satisfaction when we learn that he is coming in to assist us with some difficulty. We rest assured that the matter will be settled satisfactorily to all parties concerned. We would like to hear from some of the other locals in District Five about Brother Barker's activities. We know he is doing good work. But just like a mother about her child, we like to hear about it.

This month's bulletin: The father of the baby mentioned last month said to his mother-in-law: "I wonder why the baby doesn't call me daddy? He doesn't seem to know who I am." The mother-in-law: "I know he doesn't. We thought we would let him get a little stronger before we told him who you were!"

JACK ASKEW.

One Way This Liquor Question Can Be Solved!

By HOWARD H. CALDWELL, I. O. Member

Since the writer was a child he has heard lots of just "talk" on this topic, most of which was plain hooey.

There are many much more important subjects for workingmen to discuss than this threadbare topic, and in the last fifty years so many people have forgotten the bread and butter side of life to fight with each other over the way drinks should be sold but it seems they always get something to drink that is not exactly water whether we have high license, low license, local option, prohibition or any other state of regulation inflicted upon us by those who like to interfere in the private life of the other man to make him good by law, so we may as well conclude that you cannot make the other man eat and drink just what you think he should, when his desires and tastes are different from yours.

We can also conclude from years of experience that prohibition has not produced temperance, nor emptied the jails, nor brought respect for law, nor protected the women and children, nor kept the young men and women sober, nor has it done anything promised by its advocates before it was foisted upon us some years ago.

We see the breaking down of all respect for law and government as a result of the bribing of the executive officials from policeman to even cabinet officers, and find the arm of the law protecting only the law breakers, and if we look closely we find that most of the complaint against open saloons and now open speakeasies was that they bribed officials and mixed into politics because it was profitable for them to pay out some of their profits to increase the total amount of those profits. In other words, *profits* caused the trouble.

Why not take the profit out of the liquor business entirely? How? Very simple. Just have the state and federal government make and sell every kind of alcoholic beverage at cost to the consumer, and make it pure as well. Don't you think that would put the moonshiner, the speakeasy, the hijacker, and the police briber out of business?

It would have to be sold to *anyone* who wanted it at *cost* to prevent the millions who have learned to make some kind of hooch out of anything that contains sugar, from continuing to make it, much to the detriment of their stomachs as well as the interior of other folks, who might imbibe the awful messes produced by these amateurs.

The people drink as much or more now than they drank before prohibition, but it costs more, is impure, handled under worse conditions, and as it is the only business that pays profits nowadays there are many who are willing to pay for protection to police, federal enforcement agents and other officials; this makes our political machinery pretty rotten. I am very temperate myself, in spite of prohibition, and the many invitations to have a drink from those who now think it an achievement to get drunk, instead of their former belief that it was a vice.

L. U. NO. 145, ROCK ISLAND AND MOLINE, ILL., AND DAVENPORT, IOWA

Editor:

I must admit that my absence from the pen for the WORKER was little more than just the heat, as this hot weather sort of makes us a little sluggish, that feeling we all get around 5 p. m., but here goes.

I am always glad to receive the WORKER to read the good articles that are published. I find it interesting from the first page to the last. There is no use to tell you that prosperity is just around the corner as I believe most of the corners are near round by now. Things in our line lack about 70 per cent of being normal. We are still able to supply the public with plenty of wiremen.

Brother Cleary has been around here the past few weeks trying to encourage a little broader view in the electrical industry, and I might say he hasn't got started yet. Trying to bunch these linemen and get them together reminds me of when I was hitting the sticks and we all were eating dinner in a farmer's yard and the little boy said to his mamma: "Does lineman eat hay? Why don't they go to the barn like the horses does?" Well, I don't say that all linemen eat hay, but just try to get them all in one barn.

But, Brothers, I think this is the best move that has ever been suggested to the lineman and if it's good for the lineman it's damn good for the insideman.

Our new agreement calls for two zones. The first zone takes in everything within 15 miles of the government bridge; after being taken to the job once, you report there at 8 bells until the job is finished. Zone two is from 15 to 35 miles from the bridge and the scale is 30 cents per hour less, which will look good in a pinch and increase the working conditions in that zone. There is lots of work being done in that district by men who never were approached by our salesman, and explained the good thing we have in store for him if he will only join our organization. I believe every man who works at the electrical industry should belong to the I. B. E. W. and I believe he will if our organization will get out and sell him the good thing we have to offer.

Last month we installed another good lighting job in Davenport, Iowa, for the Mississippi Valley League, which is best in the League. They were installed on 90-foot steel towers, but we were not able to erect them, so we did the work on them after they were installed, which was a very good installation.

G. O. W.

L. U. NO. 151, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Editor:

The political pot has begun to boil here for municipal officers with a new charter going into effect the first of 1932—cutting down the working man and creating several—not jobs, but positions—from \$5,000 up to \$12,000 per year as the proponents of the charter without increasing taxes sure are wizards when they want to fool the people and get away with it.

The P. G. and E. are still handing their employees a package; put the cable spicers on a four-day week the first of September subject to call at other times without any extra pay; so why pay them for five days when they can keep them on the payroll for less and work them any time for nothing? It used to be one of the best companies in the country for wages and working conditions and now is about the rottenest. The good will of the public and employees means nothing to them, but may some day.

They are the only company here that are working their employees overtime without paying them for overtime worked; even the Telephone Company, Western Union and Postal do not ask men to work over eight hours without paying time and one-half for it.

C. D. MULL.

L. U. NO. 175, CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

Editor:

As time rolls on we have placed another member with our city, after the shake-up and dividing of the city's property again to the different commissioners. Brother McDaniels is taking care of the odds and ends for the school commissioner on the school houses. Brother Williams is still with the inspection department.

The county school teachers will not be forced to take a cut in their pay as it was formerly decided on, as the labor organizations of the city protested it very strongly. We got a four-cent raise in taxes on the county but a 20-cent reduction from the state, still leaving a clear reduction of 16 cents on the hundred. The county judge and some of the other county officials have a 10 per cent reduction in salary and some of the

clerks who did not take the reduction are having it fought out in the courts.

Now as for the local itself, we are keeping our heads up above water, nobody has reported working any overtime, or a full week. Would like to know how the other locals are making out with the new alliance with the carpenters and bricklayers. There have never been any joint meetings here. Seems like everybody is waiting for further orders.

Brother William M. Mittendorf, of L. U. No. 212, was through Chattanooga this week seeing some of the sights which he tried to see here two years ago in the dark, when he passed through here on his way to the convention at Miami.

E. E. CROSBY.

L. U. NO. 193, SPRINGFIELD, ILL.

Editor:

Since our last letter we have signed up nine of our contractors, and are working on the five-day-week plan, with the same wage scale. These nine firms have shown their loyalty and willingness to co-operate with the government by reducing the hours of work, giving more men work but not reducing the wage scale. The two firms which have not signed up may see the error of their ways and sign up before the next letter appears.

The Illinois State Federation of Labor held their convention in Galesburg, Ill., September 14-19. It was well attended. There were some of the most interesting and constructive talks and addresses given by labor officials, business men, college professors and ministers. This includes all denominations.

They all stressed their remarks on the unemployment situation throughout the world and the United States in particular, as we have the wealth of the world, and being the melting pot of the world, so to speak, we should be the first to put business back on its feet, quit this bickering and back biting and get down to business.

We must all live and if men and women do not have employment at a living wage the burden will fall on those who are more fortunate. Just now they are endeavoring to build up unemployment funds for the relief of the needy this winter. Where will this money come from? From men and women who have the right spirit and believe in the Golden Rule.

And from the big interests, bankers, manufacturers, large industries, etc. These firms, or whatever you may call them, should put the money they will give for charity in circulation by giving employment to the men and women who are willing to work at living wages, and not try to stop production by cutting wages. The laying off of employees and paying big dividends and salaries to officers, as you have been informed, does not set well with the masses and certainly does not warrant the acts that have been committed in the name of depression.

What the workers want is work not charity.

This convention will go on record as being one of the most important ever held in this state. Resolutions were passed on all phases of the unemployment situation, the Volstead Act, unemployment insurance, prevailing wage rate. These resolutions will all be acted on by the A. F. of L. at their convention in October.

The Union Label Store in Chicago, Ill., for lack of business had to lock up. This does not look very well for union labor. If we would only stop to reason with ourselves; if we bought only union made goods we would be helping a Brother or sister by keeping them employed in some factory or shop.

We fight for our rights and ask others to help us, so why not buy union made goods and try to keep the closed shops and factories busy?

The prevailing rate wage law has struck a snag in Illinois. The circuit judge of Sangamon County has decided that the law was unconstitutional. The attorney general of the state has held some of the provisions of the law were unconstitutional, so it is up to the supreme court of the state, and they will pass on it this October term. So there you are; it seems that labor laws are always declared unconstitutional, and never have a leg to stand on when they get into the courts.

There is only one way that the workers of this fair land of ours can accomplish anything, and that is by doing everything that the word union means. "In union there is strength", "A house divided can not stand." This was true in Lincoln's time and it is true now and we can see it at every hand.

We are a very large house and are divided. I mean all the crafts in the building industry. The letter of greeting to all local unions sent out by our secretary is very timely and no doubt can be carried out. As it now stands there is an alliance formed with the following crafts as members: carpenters, bricklayers, plasterers and electricians. If the other building crafts would join with these four crafts we would be a long way in putting strife and jurisdictional controversies to one side.

All large interests throughout the world are interlaced and this is nothing more than an alliance, so they have the edge on us as far as working together is concerned, so let all unions wake up and do things; we know it will take time, but let us make a start as there has been too much time lost at present.

For the past year this local has been advocating that each workman be a salesman and we have been benefited by it. The writer had an article on this salesmanship in the WORKER some time ago.

Now let us go to work in earnest and show the International Office that we are not asleep and will try to carry out their wishes for the betterment of our local union, ourselves and the International Office throughout their jurisdiction.

HERMAN R. ARMBRUSTER.

L. U. NO. 212, CINCINNATI, OHIO

Editor:

What are we going to do about the vast army of unemployed this winter? Ordinarily unemployment relief is a problem for local authorities or perhaps national government to solve. In our community we have the community chest, several organizations of public welfare and the much advertised make-a-job committee. Actively engaged in these various organizations are citizens, prominent on the social register, such as Mrs. H. C. Yeiser, Jr., Mrs. W. H. Albers, Mrs. Odra Vanderbilt and others who have devoted much of their time during the summer months preparing for a situation which without question will be the most serious in years when fall and winter reach us.

In spite of all the public doles which may be in operation, the bread lines established, the unoccupied buildings which will be remodeled to serve as sleeping quarters for the unemployed, the great amount of renovated, old clothing which will be distributed, etc., hard times will still continue in the rank and file of L. U. No. 212.

I am one of those who do not believe that charity, regardless of what way it may

be applied, is any solution to the problem of the unemployed mechanic who until the present time has been able to live and maintain a family in comfortable circumstances through his own efforts. To force a man of this type to appeal to charity can not be done without creating an embarrassing situation, to say the least.

I don't believe that those of Local No. 212 who have been fortunate enough to be favored with steady employment for several years past, would stand by and see a single Brother member appeal for public assistance. But many have been so steadily employed during this crisis that they really have been unable to appreciate the exact circumstances of the other Brother who has scarcely made a day for the past four to eight months. Think of it, out of work for eight months and these fellows still meeting you with a smile; that's what I call real optimism.

These Brothers report almost daily at our office, still true and loyal to the cause, hoping to land a job; even though it be of short duration, it matters little now. Almost completely submerged with expenses and debt, a two or three-hour job is welcome, and many spend considerable time looking for something to do in other lines without success.

Just how serious the present situation really is may be news to many of our Brother members. I doubt if it is generally known that several of our boys have already lost their homes; others at present have their homes and other personal belongings so heavily attached that it will be only a matter of a short time when they will be unable to carry on any further. Some during the summer months have been sleeping in the parks, others are attempting to eat occasionally by selling tinkering articles on the street. Through it all the highest standard of unionism has been maintained; to my knowledge not a single card has been dropped.

What is going to be done about it all is more than I can answer. It has been said that "out of dire necessity real progress may be born." Solutions have been suggested by many but none have been carried out.

I am of the opinion that a most effective solution for temporary relief could be worked out through the co-operation of those who have been permanently employed. I really believe that you boys who have been working steadily would welcome a little time off to do as you please. Perhaps you would take that trip you have been planning for ever so long but never have been able to get away. You may have dreamed of a quiet little fishing trip, but the boss never could spare you. Possibly you would like to overhaul the car or do those hundred and one odd jobs around the place. Very likely many things you would like to do have been badly neglected because your job has kept you so completely tied down.

I may be all wrong, but I think that you boys could arrange a short vacation for yourselves and turn your job over to one of those who need it so badly for a period of two weeks. It certainly would be unwise to attempt to replace an entire shop crew at one time with new men and expect work to continue satisfactory for the employer. However, if one or two Brothers at a time in the same shop could work out this plan for the two-week period, to be followed by the remainder of the crew, I am quite sure it would cause no interference with layouts of jobs and very little inconvenience, if any, to the employer.

To the average person two weeks' work would mean very little, but let me tell you

that under the present conditions if you would give some of our boys two weeks' wages it would very likely mean a change in their personal affairs covering perhaps a period of two or three months.

This may appear as a socialistic idea, but is not intended as such; it is merely a humane suggestion to temporarily relieve suffering and want among our fellow workers.

Without question this would be heartily endorsed by the unemployed. But to the Brother who now has the job it will no doubt have a different slant; to you, however, the appeal is made. I am sure there is at least one among you who will grasp the idea. If so, carry the idea out by bringing it up on the floor, then back it to a finish; it will be one of the best moves you ever made for your organization, and after a readjustment of general conditions has eventually been brought about you can honestly say that you also contributed your share to relieving the depression.

THE COPYIST.

L. U. NO. 226, TOPEKA, KANS.

Editor:

Unemployment is a terrible disease, more destructive to the morale and the lives of working people than war, for they must see their families as well as themselves suffer and possibly die because of it. But bad as it is it will be an ever worse calamity if out of all this suffering doesn't come a better order of things for all people. For wealth, gotten at the expense of 90 per cent of the people, to benefit only 10 per cent isn't an uplifting or edifying thing for even this privileged class.

However, if a better order is to be evolved it will come from the minds of the workers and not our ruling and employing classes who are satisfied with things as they are.

There is also an idea held by many that we should wait for things to change of their own volition or by some supernatural means. Such people neglect to take into consideration the fact that technological unemployment can't be remedied by any cyclical change that can come without special effort. Our administration press agents tell us that there is always 1,000,000 out of work all the time and claim that as an excuse for so many now. But if our present system allows 1,000,000 to be out of work all the time then our present system needs fixing.

No, organized capital isn't organized to help working people and has no public-spirited leader who is willing to jeopardize his position as a leader to help the underdog. The fact that to date big business hasn't come forward with one practical suggestion to remedy the ills of the system is proof conclusive of this statement and means that we must look to organized labor, which has been directly responsible for every progressive step in economics and industry in the past for a solution of the problem.

And thank God organized labor has men in her ranks ably qualified not only to outline a program but if necessary to put it into effect, provided business and politics are willing to cooperate.

A most comprehensive plan has been offered by the American Federation of Labor, the only one, in fact, that could in any way balance mass production with mass consumption. William Green, Matthew Woll, Frank Morrison, John Lewis and many others could be named who are smart enough to put it in force and their names will loom big before spring if they can receive the cooperation of all who work.

We must lick this thing this winter, Brothers, or labor is doomed to go much

lower in the ranks of men and the dignity of labor become a joke.

One big obstacle to legislation favorable to working people, especially if it should contemplate taxing incomes in the higher brackets or otherwise "interfering" with big business or curbing special privilege, is the fact that the cost of carrying on national political campaigns by the two major parties is met by contributions from big business and the men who are recipients of special privilege.

Even a Senator or Congressman who doesn't receive direct assistance from the party kitty often hesitates to offend or antagonize such donors for fear of reprisals to his party.

We can't expect to wrest control of the government authorities by these men as long as they are allowed to buy them with "donations" before election or as long as they furnish the capital that puts public officials in office.

But what has all of this to do with the electrical worker? you may ask and the answer will be: everything. For we must be American citizens first and I. B. of E. W. members afterward.

In spite of the fact that officers of the National Bank of Topeka, which is erecting a 12-story building here, assured us that every effort would be made to make this a fair job, and in spite of the fact that a union contractor is reported to have submitted a bid more than \$1,000 below that of the successful bidder, the electrical work went to the E. L. Overton Company, an unfair jobber-contractor. This is one of the worst blows the cause of organized labor has received in Topeka in a long time.

For like most every other town, work is at a standstill, with no prospects for the winter. Of course, we are still hoping for the good times promised by President Hoover and expect to hold our breath until and if they come.

J. R. WOODHULL.

L. U. NO. 230, VICTORIA, B. C.

Editor:

Yesterday, September 21, the forty-seventh annual convention of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada was opened in Vancouver, B. C., and at the present time, when so many schemes are being brought forward for the alleviation of the great evil of unemployment it might be interesting to our members to learn something of the policies advocated by the Congress.

The executive council states: "Labor has never claimed it is the duty of governments to paternalistically provide every man and woman with the necessities of life, but it does contend that for every normally fit man and woman there should be opportunity for employment at wages which will enable them to maintain a proper standard of living. If private enterprise fails in this respect, it does become the duty of governments to see that none is compelled either to starve or become paupers."

Labor seeks to secure action in three ways.

(1) By provision of work to eliminate unemployment, failing which:

(2) Provision of the necessities of life for the destitute and

(3) Measures to cope with future unemployment in an organized manner and prevent its recurrence to the greatest possible degree.

Labor's policy briefly summarized:

Progressive reduction of hours through the shorter workday and five-day week; strict enforcement of one day's rest in seven; and the granting of holidays with pay to workers of all classes.

Resistance to wage reductions so as to prevent lessening of the purchasing powers of the masses.

Participation by the workers through their trade unions in the management of industry.

Public ownership and control of public utilities to prevent stock-watering and other forms of over-capitalization or profiteering. Abolition of fee-charging employment offices and continued development of free employment bureaus.

Unemployment Insurance

The statement recommends also the establishment of a national system of unemployment insurance based on contributions from the state, employers and employees, and "pending this, the joint participation of federal, provincial and municipal authorities in payment of direct relief to needy and destitute unemployed and their families, as was done in 1921 and again under the Federal Unemployment Relief Act of 1930."

"During times of trade depression work to be provided by federal, provincial and municipal authorities wherever possible by undertaking the erection and repair of public buildings, construction of highways, reforestation, separation of grade railway crossings, clearing of agriculture land, cheap loans for the construction of workmen's homes, etc.," is also recommended.

Contributory to the above, other social measures which indirectly help to cope with the unemployed situation should be advanced as rapidly as possible, the statement concludes.

"Among such are old age pensions, pensions for the blind, health and sickness insurance, apprenticeship acts, technical education, raising of the school leaving age, minimum wage laws, measures for the protection of women and children, in fact, practically all forms of social legislation which protect the health and safety of the worker and provide maintenance for those unable or incapable of earning their own living."

This statement is signed by Tom Moore, Ottawa, president of the Congress and the members of the executive. More power to them.

Owing to our isolated position, being on an island, has made our troubles less severe than those of other locals, yet our Brothers fail to appreciate their good luck and the attendance at meetings, in spite of the fact that I go around to each one that I can get in touch with and implore him with tears in my eyes not to forget that "tonight is meetin' night" is mighty slim, and some of these gazaboos, I mean, dear Brothers, have the gall to suggest that our business manager, Brother Reid, should come around after pay day and collect their dues. If it wasn't for Brother Reid's ability as a collector some of them who are working steady would be out of standing.

"SHAPPIE."

L. U. NO. 275, MUSKEGON, MICH.

Editor:

As one reads the WORKER many invitations to visit the various locals are found, provided, of course, that one is not looking for work. Muskegon extends you the same invitation. Come and see us. We have plenty of time to show you around.

Well, trout season is over and the large ones still swim the brook. The boys have the old guns oiled and ready for the duck season.

On August 1 we loaded the family in the old bus and hied ourselves to Twin Lake for the annual picnic. A few of the boys were late for dinner. It seems they had an urgent desire to attend to at Brother Nelson's. Well, maybe so.

Brother and Mrs. Harry Startup kept us busy in the afternoon with a series of contests. Prizes were awarded to the winners. We take off our hats to the Startups when it comes to planning the fun.

Even the rain in the afternoon could not send this gang home and nearly everyone stayed to help clean up the ice cream, etc. Yes, sir; we had a fine time in spite of the rain.

President Pascoe appointed the following officers at our last meeting: Foreman, John Lang; first inspector, Bill Barrows; second inspector, Bill Sikkenga.

We are yet unable to see any reason for a cut in wages.

I. M. GIBBS.

L. U. NO. 284, PITTSFIELD, MASS.

Editor:

Conscientiously admitting laxness in our duty as press secretary, with the realization that the WORKER has received no letter from the "Local-in-the-Berkshires," for several months, much to the disgust of some of my dear Brothers; it is with a sense of loyalty to them and my local union that I submit to the persistent demands for an occasional letter in our WORKER. I might say "DEMANDS," bordering on pestiferous prosecution and profane insolence.

Does it ever occur to you, who only attend meetings "once-in-so-often," or just in time to pay dues, or escape non-attendance tax, that you saddle a lot of unnecessary and extra burdens upon the shoulders of your executive board members? The "ones-in-power," as you say. Are you a "regular", or do you claim membership in the class known as "silent shirkers"? Who only occasionally decorates a chair in the back of the hall and sits throughout a whole meeting, silent as an Egyptian mummy in the shadowy recess of some ancient tomb; then go out and tell the world in general, that "they" run everything to suit themselves. Don't kick about—"the clique!" if by your show of disinterest, you have helped to create—"the clique."

By your regular co-operative attendance; your opinions voiced in open meeting; every co-operative effort in progressive and constructive programs; and a willing participation in the Building Trades Council, and Central Labor Union movements, you can help to lighten many of the problems that confront your executive board. Think it over.

The new research program outlined by our I. O. looks good; and Local No. 284 progressive as always, is to step into line and install the system here in Pittsfield. Along with our own proposed plan of unemployment service, we ought to be in a fair position to combat much of the want and suffering among our boys this winter. While it isn't necessary to refer to the present depression, we all know it is here, we all know that we cannot dodge it, yet we, in the Berkshires ought to consider ourselves very fortunate that none of our boys have known the meaning of unemployment until within the last few months. And even now, with slackness of work forcing some on the waiting list, none have actually been in need of relief.

We took great pride in the activities of our Building Trades Council in the past and we regret that it is not functioning with any apparent show of interest. According to reports the Central Labor Union is just managing to keep from going to sleep on its feet; there, too, the interest seems lacking. Is it the lack of team work, or shall we again quote "depression"?

Personal observation leads one to believe that this "brotherly love"—and "do-unto-

others"—, stuff among our allied trades, are unheard of axioms, in the aforesaid bodies. Oh, yes! We are represented by delegates; but it is a question whether or not we are just kidding ourselves that this present deplorable situation is "progressive!"

As an experimental endeavor to rouse some of our hibernating Brothers to the marvelous fact, that we do occasionally hold meetings for their benefit as well as others, a series of tri-monthly smokers and entertainment is planned for the coming winter. Recently the first of these smokers was held and proved a popular event.

We want our boys in Lenox and Southern Berkshire to know that we are always glad to see them. It's a pleasure to see them drift in "en masse."

E. C. STONE.

L. U. NO. 288, WATERLOO, IOWA

Editor:

We have not been heard from for a long time, so I will tell you a little about our local. Our mixed membership of about 50 is no greater or less than, it was before these times of not so good business, and with the exception of a very few, all live and work in the city. The power company employs all card men on their city crews, but have never been organized on the high line gangs. Inside shops are all signed up with us, and if they just had something to do we would all be sitting pretty. Big jobs have been limited to one school now completed, and the Y. M. C. A., now under construction, otherwise residence building has been about the same as other cities of this size and location.

All building trades crafts had a little difficulty this spring when a masters association was formed and gave notice to the building trades crafts that drastic cuts would be in effect April 1. The electrical workers were given a 22½-cent cut. As no crafts appeared for work at that date we were locked out for about two weeks while arbitrations were going on. H. J. Boyle handled our side very efficiently and we signed up with but a two and a half cent cut, with the Waterloo Electricians, and we did not recognize the master association, as only a few of the contractors belonged to it. Organized labor has had far too little work to provide for itself through this coming winter here, but we have had much better conditions and wages than the unorganized class, for which we should be thankful.

In closing I wish to state that I had the pleasure and opportunity to hear President William Green at Ottumwa, Iowa, Labor Day, and what a real celebration they had. Don't let anyone tell you that Labor Day celebrations are out of date and can't be successful; just ask Ottumwa.

H. P. HAPPA.

L. U. NO. 292, MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Editor:

On Monday, August 17, at 10 a. m. at the Eagles' Hall, the forty-ninth convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor was called to order by J. B. Boscoe, president of the Minneapolis Central Labor Union.

After introducing a number of speakers who addressed the convention, including Mayor W. A. Anderson, Aldermen Peterson and Kauth and Representative McNulty, and reading a telegram from Governor Olson, who was prevented from attending the convention by illness, he turned the convention over to President Hall, of the State Federation.

This was the first time that the convention had been held in Minneapolis in 35 years. It lasted three days, during which

time a large number of more or less lengthy speeches were made, one of the best of which was that of Brother McGlogan, International Vice President, in charge of the railroad division of the I. B. E. W. There were a large number of resolutions passed and an extensive program outlined for the ensuing year, which if only one-half is made effective would be of immense benefit to organized labor in this state.

The federation went on record in favor of modification of the Volstead law to permit the manufacture and sale of good beer, the pardon of Mooney and Billings, unemployment insurance, the five-day week and six-hour day and many other progressive measures.

President Hall and Secretary Lawson were re-elected to their respective offices for the ensuing year and St. Paul was chosen as the convention city for next year.

There were 360 delegates attending the convention, about double the attendance of last year and the largest attendance for many years.

Conditions in Minneapolis are "getting no better fast" as far as employment is concerned. Manufacturing and commercial industries are cutting their working forces to the extreme minimum and also cutting wages. The building industry is almost at a standstill, with only one or two jobs of any size in progress, and those over half done, with only two or three sizeable jobs in prospect, and they will not be starting probably until nearly the beginning of next summer. Electrical work is especially scarce; nearly 50 per cent of our membership either being out of work entirely most of the time or else working on such short schedules that they only get in a few hours a week.

So far the most of the building trades have been able to maintain their wage scales, but the prospects for this winter don't look any too bright and it is almost certain that some of the locals will either be forced to lower their wage scale or lose heavily in membership, or both before spring comes. This is not the calamity howling of a pessimist, but just the honest facing of the prospective conditions as indicated by the known facts.

As to the amount of misery, suffering, starvation, breaking up of homes and families, suicides, insanity and crime that will be the direct result of this condition, one avoids allowing their imagination to dwell upon the subject. The picture is too horrible, and yet this is the fruit of our great American system of the mixture of politics and capitalistic commercialism.

W. WAPLES.

L. U. NO. 308, ST. PETERSBURG, FLA.

Editor:

For years science has searched the innermost recesses of chemistry and biology for that intangible something that gave life. They finally discovered that sunlight is life. So, that being the case, you will still find us among the living as this is known as the "Sunshine City". This week we are celebrating our annual "Sun Festival", at which time we elect a "sun queen". What is most significant this year is that labor has put a queen in the field and hopes to elect her for the reason that the sun queen will be escorted by a motorcade to Tampa on Labor Day, there to be feted. Tampa is going big this year, inviting the whole state to participate on labor's holiday. We are planning now for 1932 celebration.

Another thing that stands out mostly and shades all the headline news of the day is that the Florida Power Company has also

put a queen in the field, with no other purpose in view but to defeat labor's queen.

Maybe they will; time will tell. Labor in this vicinity has a big chance to assert itself at this time and everyone of us is hoping and praying and working night and day to put labor's queen over. We hope to have one gala day at Tampa on Labor Day and I am sure it is going to be a great thing for labor throughout the state. We are following up any advantage we might gain with a legislative committee so as to be ready at the next session of the legislature to put over a compensation law. In trying to cope with the unemployment situation our mayor has offered garden plots, the city to put land in shape and provide implements without charge. That might help some.

Our election was a mild one and everybody seems to be satisfied the way things are going so far.

We will have to devise some ways and means to control the influx of those seeking jobs on the Veterans Home. It is going to be a problem and we must solve it or perish. Now is the time for us to get busy and stop at nothing until we do have the situation in hand. There are a vanguard in here now and some are already camping on the grounds, making sure of an early look in and the job won't be started until next year.

Being pretty well fagged out working for labor's queen, I will sign off and hope to give you more and better news next time.

THE WOODCHOPPER.

L. U. NO. 339, FT. WILLIAM, ONT., CANADA

Editor:

The fine summer we have had up in this country has been enjoyable—one long stretch of unbroken good weather. The farmers may not agree with me but then this is not sent to be printed in a farmers' journal. Although good can be said of the weather, the same cannot be said of trade conditions here at the head of the lakes, and what with railroads on short time, reductions of staff; local pulp mills on short time and completely closed down, conditions throughout the country are not the best. In fact, I am enough of a pessimist to wonder whether they are as bad as they can or will be. The grain, which I suppose is the backbone of this country, has not got an export market and until the grain moves stagnation is all that can be expected. Somebody said prosperity is around the corner. This puts me in mind of the song, "Round the Corner and Under a Tree."

I think this is referring to prosperity, who is around the corner and under a tree and must have a "jane" or something equally interesting to keep him there.

Brother Macintosh's aid was obtained last month to enable Brothers on one of the railroads to work an extra day per week. This condition unfortunately only lasted two weeks and we are again on the previous ration of four days per week.

September 4 was our regular meeting night. Brother Noble attended this meeting and entertained us as usual by sharing with us some of his vast fund of information of outside points, conditions elsewhere, that, by comparing with our own, a deviation can be obtained showing a plus or minus, as the case may be.

September 7, Labor Day, the Trades and Labor Councils of Fort William and Port Arthur put on their annual joint celebration in which some Brothers were active members of the Labor Day committee. All other Brothers no doubt paying their entrance fees, buying hot dogs and paying other odd nickels that made the present

depression look to the finance committee at the end of the day a regular mountain.

September 11, special meeting was held to meet Vice President Ingles and I am glad to say we had a good meeting. Everybody was glad to see him. Ernie has been expected to visit us for a long time. We had something to ask him, things to tell him. He was asked, he was told, and I think that the Brothers are a lot more satisfied. The air is clearer and it is far more decisive than letter writing. We hope he will make it his business to visit us again.

Some of the Brothers may before my next epistle reaches them go hunting. The moose and deer season is approaching. A word of warning to the younger "nimrods" may be conveyed in the following story. The value of organization is also apparent:

A hunter in the northern Ontario forests was making great slaughter on a pack of wolves, and the leader of the wolf pack realized that their extermination was apparent. He, therefore, called all the wolves in the district together and formed one pack. This pack harassed the hunter continually until one day the hunter, being away from his base of supplies, the wolves harassed him to such an extent that he used all his cartridges. The hunter thereupon, as night was approaching, climbed into a tree, feeling quite safe, as he had never known wolves to climb trees, expecting by morning that the wolves would disperse as usual. The wolf leader thereupon called a consultation at the foot of the tree and explained matters, saying that something had to be done before morning. One of the tribe then spoke up and proposed to get the beaver in a nearby meadow to cut the tree down which would then bring the hunter within their reach. This advice was acted upon. The hunter was destroyed as planned. The wolves lived happy ever after. Shows what organization can do, also the intelligence of wolves.

PRESS SECRETARY.

L. U. NO. 347, DES MOINES, IOWA

Editor:

I missed getting into the last WORKER owing to the lack of news. Things around here are not as they were 60 days ago. We have about 40 per cent of our boys looking for work now. Hope things get somewhere near normal before long. But it doesn't look any too good as there aren't any big jobs being planned here at present.

Our association with the bricklayers and carpenters is still going good but results seem to be slow coming in. Our contractors graduated from knob and tube work several years ago, with the result that we have about two "rat" curbstoners for every job of that kind in Des Moines. Sometimes they almost make a living, but at the price they take the work for, they eventually will starve to death. The prospects through our above affiliation are very promising, though, on house work as well as all other kinds.

On September 16 the master builders of Des Moines took it upon themselves to offer a cut of from \$1 to \$2 a day on all the crafts that work for them direct. Of course, it didn't affect the plumbers, sheet metal workers and electricians, as they or we each have separate agreements with our own bosses. The crafts affected have all voted not to take the cut, which became effective October 1. So the result can be about anything. It was a beautiful move, though, to stimulate building and business, or cause the militia to have a busy winter, as they are up in the northern part of the estate now giving cattle T. B. shots with machine guns.

More power to the Bar Association, American Federation of Labor and the American Legion on their "refreshment" stand.

W. R. BURROWS.

L. U. NO. 348, CALGARY, ALTA., CANADA

Editor:

The inside wiremen's agreement with the electrical contractors has now been in operation about a month, and is apparently quite satisfactory to both parties. It is generally agreed that this local accomplished something worth while in getting an agreement signed which was endorsed by our International President.

Of course, we have been criticised—rather uncomplimentarily—by some of our labor friends for taking a 10-cent cut. We have been told we should have stood our ground and fought for our rights, even to the point of using extreme measures and direct action. However, some of the members of the agreement committee have long memories and are old enough to recall such events as the "dynamite conspiracy" trial and the boomerang of the McNamara affair. We must co-operate and educate to maintain our position today.

The international labor movement is part of an existing order of things and our very existence lies in maintaining—not destroying—that order. Our progress depends upon evolution, not revolution; and evolution implies education. Perhaps a certain class might stand to benefit by a revolution, but not the organized labor movement. We would be buried, Samson-like, in the ruins.

The voice of labor will soon be heard again in the annual civic elections. This local put forward a worthy and successful candidate for the school board last year. Now we are being asked to choose again who will be our civic executive for another year. The emergency of the times calls for rare judgment. Labor has shown itself willing and able to govern and advise in the interest of those who put them into office. It is too bad the Labor Party is not endowed with funds like other parties and apparently is not influential enough to divert into its coffers funds from such sources as the word Beauharnois suggests.

What has the Labor Party done? Surely its record of the last few years is answer enough. All of our social legislation is resultant of labor's efforts. Who has not felt the benefit of our compensation laws? Who would question the comfort that the old age pension and mother's allowance act bring to their recipients? The mechanics lien act and its recent improvements were vigorously fought for by labor. Now organized labor is demanding—directly through its party—unemployment insurance. And the organized workman will be the first to benefit when unemployment insurance goes into effect. Get behind your Labor Party, so that your opinion may find expression in an honest effort to dissipate the present pall of depression which hangs over us. There is no need for want and misery.

Industry and international finance have created a depression in which everyone suffers but capital. Maybe Australia has made a step in the right direction in reducing the interest rate to bondholders and private finance.

I notice my little old cheque grows smaller every week but the interest on the home mortgage holds up cheerfully at 8 per cent. And my taxes are higher again this year, with nearly half going out again in paying interest.

In war time the financial lords conscripted man power so why not in peace time conscript wealth?

Organized labor should use the channels already existing for its expression. The way of salvation lies in political action. We must not be stung by the capitalist lash into violence or lulled to sleep by their organized palliatives.

PRESS SECRETARY.

L. U. NO. 353, TORONTO, ONT.

Editor:

Better hurry and get the usual story in from Toronto. Circulation would surely drop by two or three copies per year, but for our choice bit of condensed scandal each month.

First of all, there is mighty little doing. Canadian Comstock are doing the Maple Leaf Gardens, after that we see a blank wall ahead. Someone had better get busy and start something in a hurry.

The Comstock Company are more than friendly to this organization and are helping considerably in the way of relieving distress by passing the work around quite freely.

Brother E. J. "Boomer" Davis was in town. He is sure one popular fellow in this burg, and he can't come back too soon to suit us. While here, Brother Davis had occasion to have a close-up view of two outstanding figures of Canada. The first was a labor man who practically controls the policies of the Dominion. The second was a race horse called Celeritas. The latter, though handicapped by having to carry the huge combined wagers of Brothers Shaw, Davis and myself was a sure thing at 20 to one. Boys, how he did run, two lengths behind the rest and right around the track. We laughed till we cried; however, that's a different story.

Toronto has for months been the Mecca of International Officers. Many of the construction policies of eastern Canada are moulded here and owing to depression and attempts at wage cutting there have been many meetings with the general contractors.

Be that as it may, the minute "Boomer" Davis hit the town these fellows scattered like chaff. One to Iroquois Falls, another to Ottawa, still another to Winnipeg, and so on. Fearing that Brother Davis was really bad medicine to unsuspecting young labor men your correspondent also got the fever and made a bee line for the Saguenay River, where he remained until the decks were cleared for a safe return.

Hope you did not think us unkind, Brother Davis, but do come back as soon as possible, we know a few more winners.

In spite of unemployment the boys here, with some assistance from the organization, are showing remarkable fortitude and trades union spirit. About a half dozen have dropped out and one or two have been suspended for serious infractions of the rules. We are hoping for federal assistance in the building trades this winter and surely need it.

Our provincial conference will be held this month. Brother Ingles will be out west, but some of his pals will keep him posted, so we don't get too ambitious with our ideas.

If things would have been right, this would have been our general convention month. What a busy time we would have had. Whoever sponsored the idea of a postponement knew his stuff and from my corner I am giving him three cheers.

Boys, let's tighten up the old belt and stick it another winter. By that time the bankers and politicians will be feeling the pinch, then things will have to pick up. Here's hoping.

FRANK J. SELKE.

Some people have a perfect genius for doing nothing, and doing it assiduously.—Thomas C. Haliburton.

L. U. NO. 409, WINNIPEG, MAN., CANADA

Editor:

Since writing my last letter things have been happening to the railroad workers in Canada. We have for weeks past been in a state of uncertainty regarding our future, for it was announced that a 10 per cent cut was imminent.

The cut to be either a staff reduction or reduction of time by an agreement between the railroad management and the shopmen. A vote by ballot was taken, and an overwhelming majority in favor of a reduction in time was cast.

Our suspense is over; we are now working on a five-day and four-day week alternately. Whilst many departments in the shops are slack the electrical department is very busy, and could easily be running on full time, but a policy of share and share alike put us on an equivalent basis with the other shops regarding time. This move may be a commendable measure during a crisis such as we are now in, but strictly speaking is not in accordance with the ideas of craft unionism as we have known it in the past.

Extra help has been drawn from the back shops and from road gangs. These latter are journeymen electricians, the former being helpers. This alleviates the situation somewhat, but it is open to question if it is good policy for the electrical workers to shoulder the burden of other craft. This point seems to stick with several of the boys around here, and I am anxious to see them at the next meeting where this matter can be discussed.

The railroads of Canada are suffering from the same complaint as other railroads, i. e., competition from busses and trucks, as well as the general depression.

An open letter was read at our last meeting dealing with this question, and suggesting that the railways put on a fleet of trucks—as the freight end of the business suffered most—to compete against these "prairie freighters." This scheme could be worked effectively, no doubt, in western Canada as road conditions are not so good as in the east or in the United States, where I have seen many of these big freighters, some drawing a trailer or two loaded with merchandise, cattle, etc., which should legitimately be hauled by the railways, and little wonder, with these "rats" gnawing at our bread, we are on short time. Long hauls are made by these "prairie freighters" in Manitoba subject to weather conditions, but as this venture is comparatively new here a scheme as above, I think, would eventually put these undesirable road hogs off the road.

One new member added to our list, and prospects of a few dropped members lining up again show that interest is still kept up as far as membership goes, but interest at the monthly meetings wanes. This is a common ailment noted in many a scribe's epistle in the JOURNAL.

The Brother from L. U. No. 794 has the right idea. I hope he sees it accomplished. We could not work it right now as the workers from the other railroad shops with whom we once discussed a similar project are now out for an indefinite period.

The winter season being close at hand a live committee was struck off to provide entertainment during the long winter months, and I hope to report some of their activities in the near future, and to reveal the nom de plumes of these livewires.

R. GANT.

Men, even when alone, lighten their labor by song, however rude it may be.

—Quintilian.

L. U. NO. 413, SANTA BARBARA, CALIF.

Editor:

The membership of this local was tendered a most welcome surprise and genuine treat on September 11, when the "big chief", President Broach, honored us with his personable presence.

President Broach, due to his health, could not afford to dissipate his energy through the medium of a lengthy speech. However, he favored the membership with a talk of about one-half hour's duration and upon resuming his seat, held himself ever willing to answer those questions concerning the Brotherhood which are always uppermost in the minds of the members. To say that our International President "got over" is but putting it mildly. His remarks were considered by all who heard them, to be very enlightening and interesting, forever setting aside the possibility of having anyone in this locality figuring our International President as being "just a figurehead". In the opinion of Local No. 413, the International Executive Council is to be highly commended for making such a prudent choice, when that body selected Brother Broach as the chief executive of our International Organization. The same goes for President Broach, in selecting Brother Harry Brigaerts as the vice president of the ninth district. I feel perfectly safe in expressing the personal opinion that the International Office now has the full confidence of the membership in this locality. Our members will always look back upon this occasion as being one of the outstanding events in the history of their local, and shall ever look forward to the time that President Broach accepts the local's standing invitation to visit with us again.

Possibly some of the members in New York State, Florida, Arizona, New Mexico and elsewhere, will be sorry to hear that our good Brother, Joseph Saulsbury, is in considerable physical distress. Joe is suffering from a combination of ailments that have kept him in bed since July 2. We expect that he will submit to major surgical treatment before the week is over.

Last month I wrote of my desire to offer suggestions which I felt might improve the standing cards; and also the directory for local unions. I understand that these things will be placed before International Secretary Bugniet for consideration at the time he attends the A. F. of L. convention in Vancouver, B. C.

In conclusion, I compliment Locals No. 83, 418, 6 and 18, and the Kern County Building Trades Council in sending such capable delegates to the California State Federation convention which held forth here recently. Too, we enjoyed the company of Representative E. A. Stock and trust that he will stay over for one of our meetings when the opportunity permits him to do so.

"HULSH."

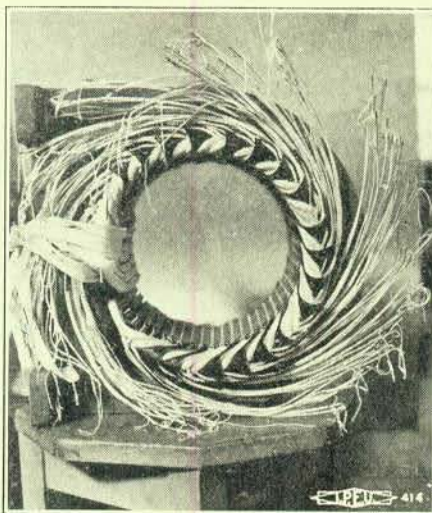
L. U. NO. 444, PONCA, CITY, OKLA.

Editor:

It is getting pretty hard to commend anything in connection with Boulder Dam. For the last few months the first kind words the writer has had for anything or anybody when the Dam is mentioned were my admiration of the cartoons in last month's WORKER about the Dam. Then I read the articles which accompanied the cartoon. Brothers, the Dam is a monument to Mr. Hoover! Whatever our interest may be, or our wishes, or Mr. Hoover's, he will be remembered not for the food administration during the Great War; not for Belgian relief; not for the career he had as a citizen in private life; not for any effort or achieve-

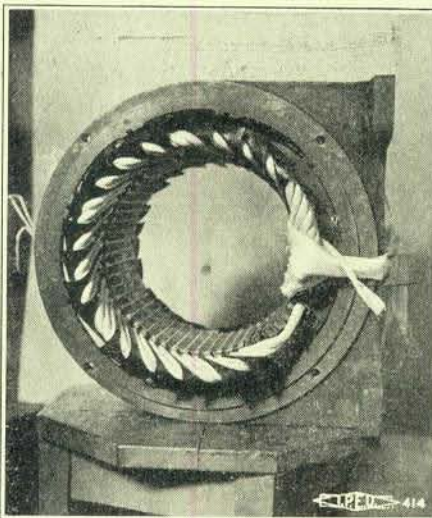
Evolution of an Armature

By L. U. No. 444

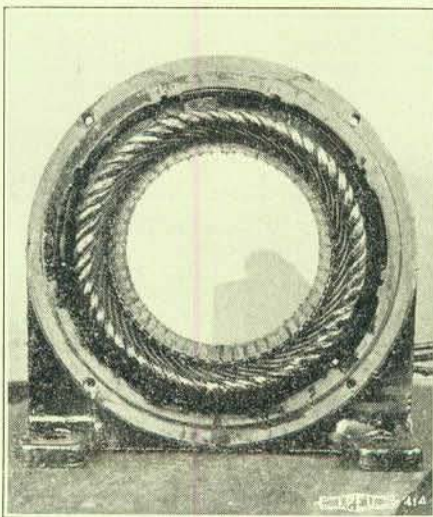


THREE STAGES OF THE WORK

Stator Windings 15 h. p.—440 v.—three-phase, 60-cycle motor, wound by B. F. Bingham, of Local Union No. 444, Ponca City, Okla., in armature shop of Continental Oil Company, September 1, 1931.



SECOND PHASE



COMPLETED PRODUCT

ment by him or under him by others in all time to come! Just as men recall that under Roosevelt the Great Cut was made and Goethals & Company became immortal because they made the job safe and fair for the working man, so will history, song and fireside story brand our Herbert with the mark of Cain, and point him out to all who read or listen as the President who took the workers' money and hired the Six Companies to "build the dam with bones!"

Such publicity and pitiless exposure as the WORKER uses on all concerned may bring about the correction of the wrongs that are practiced and give us the only hope for the future of public works. But they only record the truth. The administration has built its own monument and written its own epitaph. Along with Peter the Great of Russia, a king, though violently insane; along with Napoleon, with his campaign to Moscow and his Battle of Waterloo; along with all the other "great" by reason of their failure; hundreds of them, down from the beginning of time, will stand out the last, most disappointing failure of all, the "hero" of Boulder Dam.

Ponca City is dull, as are other places; 1931 has cost us much lost time, and cuts in wages throughout our schedule of from \$1 to \$1.40 per day. But we have fought hard in the face of reverses, and yielded no inch of precious ground till every effort had failed; and then, just as steadily begun to build again. We have a larger per cent of the work in our control than ever before, and hold the respect, even of enemies who, when we were booming, scorned us.

We have maintained trade school activity for years, and it helps. We are very proud of our present school and our teacher, Brother B. F. Bingham.

Local union attendance is good. Conditions in the town are: Electrical work, 100 per cent union. Public opinion is more favorable than it used to be. Our problem is to be prepared through better service and better value, even at difference in wage rates, etc., to command business in ever widening areas; to train our own men and our own helpers and go get the business.

Enclosed are some photographs of armature shop work by members of Local Union No. 444, at the shop of Conoco Oil and Refining Company.

COBB.

L. U. NO. 508, SAVANNAH, GA.

Editor:

There is very little change in conditions in Savannah since our letter of last month, certainly there is no increase in employment. Brother Kelly, International Representative, was with us for about 10 days trying to work out some plan whereby 508 might profit. Brother Kelly seems to be a very shrewd observer of labor conditions as concerns both workers and employers. He outlined a program for our local union to pursue, and if the officers and members will vigorously get behind this plan and push it, there is no reason why substantial benefits should not result from it. For, after all, the International Office and its representatives can only give us good advice and show us what to do. Success depends entirely upon the amount of effort put forth by ourselves.

In pursuance of the plan of President Hoover, a local relief committee has been formed, with Mayor Hoynes as chairman. A similar committee was formed last winter and no doubt did some very good relief work, inasmuch as keeping people from starving, or rather a better way of expressing it would be "keeping people alive" can be construed as "good work". Heretofore all committees of this sort all over the country have been

made up of men and women who have very little in common with the masses of working people. These include the heads of banking and industrial concerns who have probably not as individuals but as a class proven their incompetency to cope with the present industrial and economic depression. In addition to these there are always on committees of this sort the well-meaning but ignorant class, usually wealthy, who think the emergency has been met and the problem solved when a few patriotic appeals have been made to the rank and file to give "until it hurts" that the poor of our fair city may not starve or freeze during the coming winter. There are individual millionaires in every community that could underwrite the entire relief program of their section without any sacrifice to themselves. But this would not be democratic, the worker who is making only half time and that at reduced pay must be "allowed" to do his bit and help his less fortunate brother. Oh, democracy, what a versatile and changeable creature you are! You belong to the poor man when there is something to "give" and to the rich man when there is something to take.

So far all the plans suggested by our government and those high in public life deal only with "relief" instead of "cure"; they speak of the depression as only a temporary misfortune that will soon pass like the measles or mumps. Some know better and are purposely spreading propaganda as a smoke screen in order to delay the cure as long as possible. Others are honestly ignorant that our industrial and financial diseases have been steadily but insidiously growing for years. I refer to the amassing of the wealth of the world in a few hands. This centralization has now reached the point where there is nothing to do but break up these vast fortunes and take steps to prevent them from reforming. Our political leaders are afraid of this problem. Frankly, it is a delicate one and the details would have to be worked out by intelligent men well versed in economics. But it will take courageous leadership to start the ball rolling, some one with the courage of the late T. Roosevelt. It seems that the capitalists themselves would read the handwriting on the wall and be the first to propose such measures, for, after all, it will be better for them to lose some than to lose all. For be assured, as President Green, of the American Federation of Labor, said: "If it comes to either riot or starvation, the American worker is not going to starve."

A. W. THIOR.

L. U. NO. 561, MONTREAL, QUE.

Editor:

At the last local elections all officers were returned to their positions.

Our C. P. R. members are away on (enforced) vacations again. This is becoming quite a habit now, regular every month. There is work for employees on only 13 or 14 days of each month. Several of our members are reduced to the rank of the unemployed, with no prospect of obtaining any kind of work in view. It will indeed be a blessing to all concerned when the depression has ended.

Our provincial elections are over now, and the result of them was that the same government, which has been in power for 34 years, was returned to office by an overwhelming majority. Perhaps, now, we will be given some of the things which we have been promised for so many years, such as changes to the workmen's compensation act, relief for the unemployed, and a separate labor ministry.

Brother Macintosh, general chairman of the regional council for C. P. R. lines,

dropped in on our last regular meeting and gave us an outline on the situation throughout the country. By the way, what has become of General Chairman McEwen? We have not seen him for some time at our meetings.

Just a word to our members in closing. We still meet on the first Tuesday of every month at the "Monument National", St. Lawrence Street, Room 15, and we would like very much to have your support at these meetings.

A. L. TAYLOR.

L. U. NO. 574, BREMERTON, WASH.

Editor:

In accordance with the new constitution we have elected our officers, as follows: A. J. Hebert, president; Jack Morgan, vice president; J. L. Van Rossum, financial secretary; "Shorty" Brice, treasurer; W. Rogers, inspector; J. Jones, foreman.

We have very efficient central trade and labor council delegates. They are Brother Bales and Brother Oakley. They are very diplomatic and get what they go after.

Our local is a mixed local; it consists of all branches of electrical workers. Most of the members are employed in the navy yard. This local depends entirely upon the navy yard. At the present time we have the cruiser Astoria to build. But it is going very slow and it doesn't mean much to us till it is under construction for about a year. Then there is work for about 40 electricians for at least a year.

Brother Fein, one of our local contractors, just completed a contract on a community theater.

The navy yard was asked to bid on two destroyers, but as yet we have not heard if the yard gets it or not.

Will pull the switch this time.

F. P.

L. U. NO. 585, EL PASO, TEXAS

Editor:

The first thing on the program is to notify any one knowing the whereabouts of Bill Burke, a lineman six feet tall, light hair and will weigh around 200 pounds. Keep him off off all jobs and notify me, Jack Burkholder, in care of Local No. 585, at once.

Things are at a standstill here in El Paso, not a thing doing and looks as though it will be that way for some time to come. About all that holds the boys who are left is the storm period.

Fort Bliss is doing a little work and wants linemen for \$3.50 a day. That does not sound so good.

It surely is funny how members forget when meeting nights are. But when they need help or other little things they can find you right now. So let us see more of you fellows at the meetings hereafter—first and third Fridays of each month. See you later.

JACK.

L. U. NO. 586, OTTAWA, ONT., CANADA

Editor:

Another month gone by and very little change in the employment situation here. We're in a position we would rather not discuss, unless we get work that would give action and not talk a chance and we could stand 2,000 work days of action right now.

We are enjoying a fairly good attendance at all our meetings and as the weather gets colder perhaps the boys will come to the hall instead of going to the ball diamonds, etc.

Brother Merrill Radamaker, of L. U. No.

134, certainly made a hit with some of the boys with his sketches in the JOURNAL, and I think they'll be sketching some of their own hookups in the future. Thanks, Brother Radamaker, a few more would not be amiss if you can find time. Our Labor Day picnic was a huge success this year. The boys all worked hard, especially Brother Ed Smith at the hot dog stand. In fact, Brother Smith sold dogs until his own dogs couldn't stand the dog trot, and as a result had to lay off work the next day to give his corns a chance to ease off. Thus ends the monthly log.

MELVIN E. CAMERON.

L. U. NO. 716, HOUSTON, TEXAS

Editor:

It is not my object to trample on anyone, but if I do, any just criticism will be cheerfully received as our aims should be for the general advancement and welfare of all concerned.

Permit me to ask myself questions and try to answer them in a constructive way to all. My first is an old one but is always with us. What is labor? Labor is that effort put forth for the sake of an economic reward. Wages are the payment for such efforts. The energy put forth may be largely physical or it may be mental. Unless we put physical and mental effort forth, what hope of a reward have we? Should we be satisfied to just float along on the good grace of others, shirk our duty and suck the blood from the energetic and faithful workers who are trying to push forward into a greater field of activity and understanding? Well, I will say that we should not be satisfied to just float along, for any dead fish can do that, but it takes a live one to swim up a stream. I am safe in saying that there is bound to be a little wiggle left in every one of us, and if we expect to ford this stream and land in a safe place we will certainly have to apply our physical and mental effort in the right direction. I want to emphasize the expression, mental effort, for you will agree there are very few instances, if any, where our labor is purely physical. To apply these efforts, some may say, "What am I supposed to do?" To assure your officers of your full co-operation in the re-education programs. That you will do your part and do it well. Stop all of the backbiting and look yourself over. Be ready and willing to do your part, for you will agree we will have to re-educate ourselves. We have been idlers and slackers in the past and now we are going over 100 per cent.

Why do I say this? Because the contractors and ourselves have let prices enter into the cut-throat competition stage, thereby rendering a heavy penalty upon us of over production, unemployment, failure of businesses and ruin of homes, etc.

Many years has co-operation been sought by the clear thinkers to avoid the ravages of unfair competition. We have delegated the power to the fellow worker we have in office to work out some plan or solution of overcoming these evils. To bring about greater industrial visions on the part of both employer and employee. A greater co-operation in a mutual problem. This they are doing and we should not cast a stumbling block in the way, but just the contrary, to be ready and willing to carry our part.

LEE BURNETT.

L. U. NO. 734, NORFOLK, VA.

Editor:

Our old friend, Jouett Shouse, wails that "Hoover waited until the last minute of the last hour of the last day" before proposing the moratorium.

We wonder if our dear Mister Shouse is fooling anyone. Little Jouey has never given vent to one constructive thought. With all his wisdom and love for his fellow man Shouse never suggested a moratorium even at the last minute of the last hour of the last day.

He deplores this and criticises that, believing that the country will lose sight of the fact that his well-being depends on hard times. Were it possible for prosperous times to return immediately, Shouse would be "out of luck."

While most of us calamity howlers are grateful for the opportunity to serve free of charge, Jouett, the Shouse, is well paid; it is his job.

While the world was at war, American industry learned to accomplish work in volumes never before attempted and with fewer workers. After the war a flood of idle labor was dumped on the industrial world which was confronted with the problem of doing less work with more workers.

Europe, that group of less progressive nations which had heretofore been our best customers, also learned how to increase production with a smaller amount of labor and had no place for the excess of labor released with the cessation of hostilities.

Today Europe, instead of being our best customer, is our strongest competitor. In spite of our "ruinously high tariff" our "ten-cent stores" and mail order houses are flooded with novelties, toys, jewelry and tools made in Germany and Czecho-Slovakia.

The time is long past due for the public to analyze for itself statements and charges appearing in the press; to remember that our public men are Americans; that the majority of them are men of integrity; that most of them are doing their best and that at least some of them are as capable as any of the subsidized calamity howlers and ballyhoo artists.

SAUVAN.

L. U. NO. 770, ALBANY, N. Y.

Editor:

The last meeting was so well attended and such a keen interest displayed that I cannot miss the opportunity of urging the "boys" to keep the good work up, so let's all work towards having bigger and better meetings.

Three new members obligated at this meeting and one at our previous show we are up and coming, and there are going to be no brakes applied in this campaign while there are men holding permanent positions in this craft unorganized.

The West Albany locomotive shops open September 8, which is very welcome news, and if the car department will only follow suit, we will begin to believe that story about that something that is around the corner—"prosperity."

Brother McCullough was in Albany last month and greatly assisted the writer in lining up some tough ones, tough as far as getting their names on the dotted line is concerned, and I know that they are beginning to weaken. Many thanks, Brother McCullough, for your timely advice.

O. E. LENT.

L. U. NO. 865, BALTIMORE, MD.

Editor:

L. U. No. 912 has been requesting to hear from the railroad locals for some time, so here is one to answer that request. Things were booming on the old B. & O. at Mt. Clare Shops during the latter part of July and the whole month of August while they were working on the air-conditioned cars. It seems as though they didn't have enough

cars equipped on the Columbian to carry the passengers who wanted to ride on it, so they had to equip more cars. We brought all of our furloughed men in off of the entire system and had about 35 members from Local Union No. 28. We regret very much we couldn't offer the members of Local No. 28 the same inducements that they gave our members during the building of the Western Electric Company's new plant at Point Breeze, Md.

We only worked the 32-hour week on the air-conditioned cars; the other crafts at Mt. Clare wouldn't let us work a longer week, but now almost the entire Mt. Clare Shops have been shut down since September 17 until further notice. I am very glad to say that the electrical repair shop is working, as there are quite a number of motors from off the road and car-lighting equipment in need of repairs and I am still glad to say that yours truly is employed in that shop.

The Communists are still after the men employed at the Mt. Clare Shops. A couple of days before the shutdown, on September 17, the Communists had their men outside of the gates distributing their paper, called "The B. & O. Worker", in which they roast the American Federation of Labor, System Federation No. 30 and the shop committee, and when we came out of the shop on the 17th they had their men outside giving out circulars of a special meeting that night for railroad shop workers. I would like to know if they are after any of the other railroad shop men.

I will try to have a letter in the WORKER more often since the weather is much cooler.

W. S. PEREGOY.

L. U. NO. 912, CLEVELAND, OHIO

Editor:

Well, Brothers, we're entering another winter of Hoover prosperity. Don't forget that 1932 is election year. However, in spite of the depression and layoffs our brave Brother Jerry DePaul will walk manfully forth next week and promise to love, honor and behave. Brother Tony Takacs wishes to tell the world that there is a Tony Junior at his house. Also President Coily Berg wishes to announce that there will be a new press secretary soon, as the present incumbent is rusty. However, they say the fishing is good at Andover.

Our meetings enjoy a good attendance, but would like to see more of the Brothers who are out of work show their faces. The executive board cannot keep in touch with you if you don't attend meetings and let them know where you are. We keep a file of furloughed men's applications and if yours isn't there we do not know you want a job.

BILL BLAKE.

L. U. NO. 995, BATON ROUGE, LA.

Editor:

Another month has rolled around and we here are still getting three squares per day, nevertheless we are having difficulties as well as all other local unions.

Saturday, August 22, the Central Trades and Labor Council had some hand bills printed, advertising Grigsby-Grunow, makers of Majestic radios and refrigerators, as unfair to organized labor. Grigsby-Grunow was advertising here at the same time, its advertisement being in the form of an automobile train. The council was following up the train with hand bills and getting them well circulated, which evidently did not meet with the approval of the advertiser, as the men who were distributing the hand bills were promptly taken to the police station,

their release being effected before they could be charged and thrown into the hoosgow.

The legislature in special called session is convening here and trying to put over a "no cotton for 1932" bill, which is causing quite a bit of discussion. I mention this fact because the labor industry is facing the same problem as the cotton industry. Where cotton is being overproduced, so is labor. There are also persons connected with organized labor who are the same to us as the boll weevil to the cotton industry; there is also inferior work produced the same as inferior cotton.

The largest problem the electrical industry faces is, exterminating the so-called boll weevil, curbing over-production, and producing a superior grade of workmanship that the unfair contractor cannot compete with. Until we see this we cannot hope to see any better times than we have at the present.

Po.

L. U. NO. 1037, WINNIPEG, MAN., CAN.

Editor:

We have been having some windstorms up here this summer, but they were as nothing to a terrible storm which I imagine must have originated in Washington, D. C., and blew Winnipeg right out of Manitoba into the province of Saskatchewan. Please don't make a mistake like that again, else Regina may be on my neck in severe chastisement. [Editor's note: Damn that copy boy.]

Summer is gradually melting into the cool of autumn, but according to Premier Bennett no one will be out of work this winter, and we are all hoping for the best.

At our September meeting, with a good turnout, we had a visit from our ever-welcome International Vice President, Brother E. Inglis, from Toronto. We all listened to some very interesting news about things in general across the Dominion, among the most interesting being the regrettable trouble between the Montreal Light, Heat and Power Company and its linemen. It is too bad that things can't be talked over around a table, where some decision, mutually agreeable to both parties, can usually be arrived at, instead of reverting to the old time method of force. Force applied against force usually amounts to one thing: a lot of damage is done, hard words are said which can never be withdrawn, and bad feeling is engendered which takes a long time to wear off. Witness: Kaiser "Bill" and his wild dream of autocracy!

Brother L. Layton is still laid up with nervous trouble, and Alex Stewart is still in the hospital with severe burns on his hands and legs. He was sitting on a transformer and got across 4,400 volts. Pete Campbell burned a 35-foot when his pole belt snap was unfastened by a branch of a tree and is at home with his wrist and foot each in a plaster cast. Pete is pretty tough and is getting along all right but Alex's burns are pretty painful. Four thousand four hundred is not to be eaten.

The Canadian Pacific Railroad has shut down its shops from coast to coast, throwing all its workmen, who have been working short time for many moons, out altogether, for the taxpayers to keep. Of course, the C. P. R. doesn't pay many taxes but it holds a higher ideal in that it must pay dividends to its shareholders no matter where the money comes from. The shutdown is indefinite. The layoff has not affected, of course, the men who are on general maintenance. They are still running trains.

That, I think, will do for this month and I hope to be back again soon.

IRVINE.

L. U. NO. 1141, OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.

Editor:

Herewith is a photo of the new First National Bank and Trust Building. It stands today 33 stories of confidence that the southwest has in the future. Incidentally, it is the fourth tallest building west of the Mississippi River. Its builders, Frank and Hugh Johnson and associates, are building today for tomorrow. They stand out as the type of men whom the southwest is made up of.

This is another building that stands as a monument of 100 per cent union labor. We can point to it with pride in the years to come as concrete evidence that union labor can be depended upon, and is relied upon, when thousands of dollars are at stake. This structure of beauty stands as a masterpiece of human skill and toil.

Manhattan Construction Company, the general contractors, have again shown the public that they can do the job right. The electrical work was done by Uihlien-Ortman Company, of Milwaukee.

Boys, you will never work for a better company than this firm. Adolph Quessler, the superintendent, has the good will of the gang and we will go the limit for him.

At last "Herbie" Hoover has done something to help the masses. His recent appointment of Walter S. Gifford, A. T. and T.'s gift to the nation, as chairman of a committee to solve the unemployment situation, brings forth a hearty haw haw from all over the universe. I might suggest to Sir Walter that he begin on this problem at home and put back to work the thousands of women that his automatic telephones have thrown out of employment. Any corporation taking revenue out of a community should return a fair per cent of those profits to that locality through the labor channels, or else be classed as a leech and parasite and be dealt with by the government as such.

Governor Murray in a recent speech stated that organized labor could be depended upon to take care of her own in these times of distress. Governor, you can rely upon us to do our part. Each member of Local No. 1141 who is fortunate enough to have a job this winter will divide with his Brother.

This local isn't immune to the Hoover, Mellon and Wall Street depression, and is taking steps to care for its unemployed this winter. President Wren has appointed a committee to study ways and means of doing this. The Brothers appointed on this committee are F. N. Monday, Homer Land, Earl Young, Harry Hoch and Business Agent "Dub" Yeargain. At a special meeting September 23, they brought in their first report and asked for more time to finish this work.

Here's a point. Brother A has been working steady for the last eight months, while Brother B has worked on the average of one day per week. B has managed to live, notwithstanding the fact that he has received no help from A, through an unemployment fund. Chances are that he is deeply indebted to his creditors

by now. Now reverse these men. B gets steady work this winter, whereas A loafes. About this time an unemployment fund is created. B pays in a percentage of his wages to this fund. A has saved nothing from his eight months' labor, so with winter on him and no work, he appeals to this fund for aid. Naturally B gets hot under the collar and resents this. One Brother says that he can exist on two and one-half days per week this winter. Maybe so, but why in the hell didn't the boys who have been working steady think of that six months back and save the other three days' wages to live on this winter?

Most of us spend our wages with as much judgment as a 12-year-old child. Perhaps we will learn better after 99 years.

The committee has my sympathy in working out plans to take care of our unemployed this winter. Theirs is no easy task. I, for one, stand ready to contribute my share, but methinks that the Brother who has worked steady all spring and summer and asks for aid this winter will have to show in figures and facts why he needs it. If any of you Brothers think we are creating

a soup line or salvation army in Oklahoma City, you had better think again. Local No. 1141 will do well to take care of her own members.

TOM RUSHING.

L. U. NO. 1154, SANTA MONICA, CALIF.

Editor:

Will try to contribute a few lines to your news columns. The boys of Local No. 1154 are still marking time close to that far and distant corner that we all saw a cut of in the WORKER a while back. We have been trying to locate just what corner that was. As for my part I am all worn out in the hunt; shoe soles are getting thin; my patience is about exhausted when it comes to some of the promises of our leading statesmen. With our local at the present things are very slack, so the boys who contemplate coming this way better finance themselves before they leave with enough money to last till the crowd thins out, or rather, till the applicants thin out down on that prosperity corner.

There are some rather larger bond issues pending within our territory which, if they are approved, may put about 5 per cent of our idle to work.

Our local suffered the loss of one of its most esteemed Brothers, Brother Tryon. The sad thoughts and exalted wishes from our Brothers as a whole travel with that good Brother to his older Brothers of Local No. 56, Erie, Pa., his final abode of rest.

In regard to Local No. 56, I myself at one time carried a card out of that local.

Brother L. H. Strickland, as our business manager, has been doing some very efficient work and has lined up most of the open shops till our ranks are about 90 per cent.

At the election practically the same officers were put back in their respective chairs, with the exception of treasurer, and they wanted an honest one, so they elected Joe Lyman. Now he is gone—a fast worker. I am waiting to see the auditor's report.

Gosh, if I had known that this depression was going to hang on this long I might have got away myself, but that prosperity thing they speak of was so d—far around the corner that it is too late now. Lyman has gone; meebby I'll get the job back, and still it would have been better if I had kept quiet.

Brother Al Speede is business manager of Local No. 40, I. B. E. W., the studio branch. Brother Speede throws a mean lariat; give him a break and he will rope 'em all. Some Chicago culture, old boy.

Brother Foss seems to get a little homesick now and then, so he takes his card back to Local No. 40. Next he will get another feeling and go back to Local No. 1154. Well, any old time the grapes are sweet, get 'em, old boy. Long, hard winter coming.

Brother George Wilde is swinging the hickey again after the siege of a broken arm. George is one of the oldtimers in the local and at one time was city inspector of the city of Venice.

THE HORNBLLOWER.



First National Building—Oklahoma City, Okla.
Weary & Alford Co. design and construction managers
Manhattan Construction Co., builders.

IN MEMORIAM

Boyd A. Keebler, L. U. No. 175

Local No. 175 Wednesday night adopted the following resolutions on the passing of the deceased Brother:

Whereas the Angel of Death has entered the home of one of our members and taken therefrom the husband and father, Brother Boyd A. Keebler; and

Whereas Brother Keebler was a worthy citizen, a kind and loving husband and father, a loyal and sincere worker in his craft union;

Resolved, That we will miss him, individually and collectively, and we mourn with his family in the untimely taking away of our good Brother; be it further

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to all the surviving relatives, and that we send copies of this resolution to them and to the official Journal for publication, and drape our charter for 30 days as a token of our esteem for Brother Keebler.

C. A. FROST,
R. H. DUNCAN,
E. E. M'DANIELS,
Committee.

Arthur J. Johnson, L. U. No. 735

Whereas it has been the will of the Almighty Reaper, in His infinite wisdom, to remove from our midst, our dearly beloved Brother, Arthur J. Johnson; and

Whereas Local Union No. 735, I. B. E. W., has lost a loyal and faithful member, and the family a devoted son and brother; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 735, I. B. E. W., extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy to the family and relatives of our late departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread in full upon the minutes of Local Union No. 735, I. B. E. W., a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in the official Journal, and that a copy be sent to the family of our late Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That the charter of Local Union No. 735, I. B. E. W., be draped in mourning for a period of 30 days in respect of the memory of our late Brother, Arthur J. Johnson.

B. I. BRUMM,
P. S. WICKHART,
RALPH E. PEIRCE,

A. O. Marker, L. U. No. 153

With a sincere feeling of sorrow and regret over the loss and passing of our Brother, A. O. Marker, it is the desire of this local union to express our sympathies in a humble way; therefore be it

Resolved, That the condolence of this organization be extended to the family and friends of Brother Marker; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days in respect and memory to our departed Brother; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be recorded in our minutes, a copy be sent to the Journal for official publication and a copy be sent to the bereaved family of our departed Brother.

JAMES CAMPBELL,
HILARY VAN DE WALLE,
Committee.

W. J. Bailey, L. U. No. 138

It is with deepest sorrow and regret that Local No. 138, I. B. E. W., records the passing into the Great Beyond of our worthy Brother, W. J. Bailey;

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the bereaved family, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the family of the deceased, and that a copy be spread on our minutes, also that a copy be sent to the Worker for publication and that our charter be draped for a period of one month.

C. F. STARKEY,
C. HADFIELD,
W. A. S. PETTIT,
Committee.

O. R. Dixon, L. U. No. 40

With a sincere feeling of sorrow and regret over the loss and passing of our Brother, O. R. Dixon, it is the desire of this local union to express our sympathy in a humble way; therefore be it

Resolved, That the condolence of this organization be extended to the family and friends of Brother Dixon; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days, in respect and memory to our departed Brother; and also be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be recorded in our minutes, a copy be sent to the Journal for official publication and a copy be sent to the bereaved family of our departed Brother.

EXECUTIVE BOARD,
Local Union No. 40.
AL P. SPEEDE, Recording Secretary.

Joseph Koutnek, L. U. No. 713

Whereas in His infinite wisdom it has pleased the Almighty God to call from our midst a true and loyal Brother, Joseph Koutnek; and

Whereas in the death of Brother Koutnek we have lost a kind, true and loyal member of the Brotherhood; therefore be it

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be spread on our minutes and a copy be sent to the Journal for publication; be it further

Resolved, That a copy be sent to Mrs. Joseph Koutnek, wife of the departed Brother, and our charter be draped for 30 days.

GEORGE CHAMBERLAIN,
A. H. NAESSENS,
HUGO HYDEN,
C. E. FELDPAUSCH,
JOHN F. SCHILT,
Committee.

Frank Priest, L. U. No. 697

It is with deep regret and sorrow that Local Union No. 697, I. B. E. W., records the passing into the Great Beyond of our worthy Brother, Frank Priest; therefore be it

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the bereaved family; and be it

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased, a copy be forwarded to the Worker for publication, and a copy be spread upon our minutes; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days, and that we, the members of Local Union No. 697, being lawfully assembled, stand in silence for one minute in further tribute to his memory.

E. McKAY,
RAY ABBOTT,
Committee.

James B. Sturgeon, L. U. No. 98

It is with deep sorrow and regret that we, the members of Local Union No. 98, feel the loss of Brother James B. Sturgeon, one of the oldest members of our organization.

Resolved, That we, the members of Local Union No. 98, extend our deepest sympathy to the family of the deceased in their bereavement.

That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days to show our respect for the deceased.

That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased, and one to the Electrical Workers Journal for publication and a copy be spread on the minutes of this meeting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

William Quinn, L. U. No. 713

Whereas the Creator of all mankind and of all things moves in a mysterious manner; and

Whereas the members of Local No. 713 deeply feel the loss of Brother William Quinn,

who for many years was a true and loyal member; be it

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the bereaved family of our late Brother William Quinn; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the International Office for publication and a copy be spread on the minutes of the local union; be it further

Resolved, That the charter be draped for a period of 30 days in respect of our departed Brother.

GEORGE CHAMBERLAIN,
A. H. NAESSENS,
HUGO HYDEN,
C. E. FELDPAUSCH,
JOHN F. SCHILT,
Committee.

Porter Z. Holmes, L. U. No. 732

Whereas Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove from our midst Brother Porter Z. Holmes; and

Whereas we, the members of Local Union 732, desire to express our deepest regret and sympathy to those who remain to mourn his loss; therefore be it

Resolved, That our charter be draped in his honor for a period of 30 days; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to his bereaved family, a copy be sent to the International Journal for publication and a copy be spread upon the minutes of this local union.

C. HANNEY,
W. FRY,
H. J. KRAEMER,
Committee.

John Windish, L. U. No. 77

It is with deep regret and sorrow that Local No. 77, I. B. E. W., records the passing into the Great Beyond of our worthy Brother, John Windish; therefore be it

Resolved, That our sincere sympathy be extended to the bereaved family; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of the deceased, a copy be forwarded to the Worker for publication and a copy be spread upon our minutes; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for a period of 30 days.

GUY BROWN,
V. J. COUDRE,
A. J. SEARS,
Committee.

William Smaltz, L. U. No. 98

The members of the L. U. No. 98 unite in sympathy with the family of Brother William Smaltz in their bereavement. We knew Brother Smaltz as an honest and faithful friend, which is the highest tribute one man can pay to another. His loyalty and noble qualities will always be remembered with deep affection by those who knew him best; therefore be it

Resolved, That we extend our sincere sympathy and condolence to his bereaved wife and relatives in their hour of sorrow; and be it further

Resolved, That our charter be draped for 30 days, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to Mrs. Smaltz, a copy to the official Journal and a copy to be spread on the minutes of our local union.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

W. L. Defibaugh, L. U. No. 601

Whereas Almighty God, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to remove from our midst Brother W. L. Defibaugh; and

Whereas Brother Defibaugh was a true and loyal member of our local union; therefore be it

Resolved, That this local extend to the family of Brother Defibaugh our heartfelt sympathy; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be spread upon the minutes of this local union, a copy be sent to the International Office for publication in the official Journal and a copy be sent to the family of the late Brother Defibaugh.

GLENN EASTMAN,
HUBERT DODDS,
ROBERT KUSTER,
Committee.

John Pugh, L. U. No. 151

Whereas it becomes our sad duty to report the passing to the Great Beyond of Brother John Pugh, who has been a true and loyal member of the I. B. E. W. since 1903.

Resolved, That we express our sympathy to his bereaved family and friends, that our charter be draped for a period of 30 days, and a copy of this resolution be spread on our minutes and a copy sent to the bereaved family and a copy to our Journal for publication.

B. E. HAYLAND,
FRANK HICKEY,
C. D. MULL,
Committee.

DEATH CLAIMS PAID FROM SEPTEMBER 1, INC. SEPTEMBER 30, 1931

L. L. No.	Name	Amount
601	W. L. Defibaugh.....	\$1,000.00
732	P. Z. Holmes.....	1,000.00
77	Jack Windish.....	650.00
40	O. R. Dixon.....	1,000.00
18	C. J. Shaw.....	475.00
I. O.	Chas. Arenz.....	1,000.00
58	Robt. McCormick.....	1,000.00
664	James Verdon.....	1,000.00
3	C. R. Drescher.....	1,000.00
98	W. H. Smaltz.....	1,000.00
98	Jas. B. Sturgeon.....	1,000.00
697	Frank Priest.....	1,000.00
3	Anthony Market.....	1,000.00
735	A. J. Johnson.....	825.00
9	P. Fitzgerald.....	1,000.00
151	John Pugh.....	1,000.00
134	Jack Kaufman.....	300.00
1025	Steve Grace.....	1,000.00
134	Leo A. Levinson.....	1,000.00
501	W. N. Burr.....	1,000.00
37	B. P. Sage.....	300.00
38	E. J. Volk.....	1,000.00
501	Daniel Linehan.....	1,000.00
73	C. H. White.....	825.00
308	E. F. Davis.....	1,000.00
508	J. P. Kelly.....	1,000.00
11	M. H. Schermerhorn.....	1,000.00
134	D. S. Voiven.....	1,000.00
46	B. F. Gordon.....	1,000.00
176	Geo. Quinlan.....	1,000.00

\$27,375.00

Death Claims paid from September 1, including September 30, 1931.....

\$27,375.00

Death Claims previously paid 2,415,161.10

Total claims paid..... \$2,442,536.10

It has been thought a considerable advance towards establishing the principles of freedom to say, that government is a compact between those who govern and those who are governed: but this can not be true, because it is putting the effect before the cause; for as man must have existed before governments existed, there necessarily was a time when governments did not exist, and consequently there could originally exist no governors to form such a compact with.

The fact therefore must be that the individuals themselves, each in his own personal and sovereign right, entered into a compact with each other to produce a government: and this is the only mode in which governments have a right to arise, and the only principle on which they have a right to exist.—Thomas Paine.

Chicago Gets a Break

Building contracts approximating \$27,000,000 have recently been awarded in Cook County, Illinois, and work on these has been started or will soon start. Following is a list of the buildings in the larger contracts:	
Marshall Field office building, La Salle and Adams Streets.....	\$11,000,000
Outer Drive Bridge, mouth Chicago River.....	5,000,000
Western Electric Addition, Twenty-sixth and Cicero Avenue.....	1,500,000
University of Chicago field house.....	1,000,000
Deering Library, Evanston.....	1,000,000
Historical Building, Clark Street and North Avenue.....	1,000,000
Commonwealth Edison Addition, Humboldt Station.....	1,000,000
Glenview buildings and race track, Glenview.....	1,000,000
World's Fair Science Building, Grant Park.....	750,000
World Fair Electrical Buildings, Grant Park.....	500,000
Electrical Manufacturing Building, Bellwood.....	500,000
Pepsodent Company Addition, 6901-23 West Sixty-fifth Street.....	500,000
Rothschild Store addition, Jackson Boulevard and State Street.....	300,000
Y. W. C. A. Building, 105-117 South Ashland Avenue.....	300,000
First National Bank alterations, Dearborn and Monroe Streets.....	250,000
Store building, Milwaukee and Spaulding Avenues.....	250,000
Tribune Tower addition, caisson work.....	200,000
Hangar, Sixty-third Street and South Cicero Avenue.....	200,000
Forest Preserve bath house, Milwaukee and Devon Avenues.....	200,000

New Autos Can Be Floated Across Streams

Floating automobiles to run on roads in the ordinary way on wheels but able when necessary to float across rivers where bridges are lacking, have been built and tested for use in a traveling exhibition of British industries proposed by Captain Geoffrey Malins, of London.

Attached to the side of each automobile are frames and brackets made of the new light metal called "elektron," an alloy of magnesium less than one-half the weight of aluminum. Fastened to these brackets are eight air bags of rubberized fabric, four for each side of the car. When the expedition wishes to cross a bridgeless river the elektron framework is put in place, the air bags are attached and these are pumped up by a bellows arrangement operated by the engine. The car then may be driven into the water under its own power and float on the air bags, with its running boards level with the water surface. Passengers and driver sit in place perfectly dry and the car may be paddled across the river like a canoe or towed by a motor boat or by ropes from the opposite bank. When not needed the metal brackets, air bags and bellows pack away in a box about two feet square by six feet long.

The exhibition which Captain Malins is taking out will consist of several such cars carrying samples of the products of a number of British manufacturers. Motion pictures will be carried and shown and new sound films will be made during the trip. The caravan expects to travel through Europe, Syria, Palestine, Egypt and Central Africa, to end at Capetown, a journey of some 12,000 miles.

THE BURSTING OF THE ROPE

(Respectfully dedicated to Electricians' Local No. 349, Miami, Fla., by Pat Tracy, Member Plumbers Local No. 519.)

You can talk about your feats of strength

Performed in days of yore,
Or when Atlas held the world on high
Until his knees were sore;

The famous strong man, "Sandow,"
Who with heavy weights would cope;
All fade into oblivion

Since the electricians broke the rope.

'Twas the seventh day of September,
in 1931,

When union men throughout the land
On that day have their fun;

And down here in Miami, adjacent
to the bay,

A great event in history
Was seen on Labor Day.

The members of the bricklayers, artistic men, with trowels,

Decided they would lift the "Cup"

If it took them twenty hours,

Therefore, they sent a challenge

To the electrical workers' "chief";

The defy, written by "Rigby", was
pithy, short and brief.

When Roche received the challenge
bold

He said: "Boys, that's just fine;

I'll show them how we pulled the mules

When I worked down the mine

Watch closely all my motions

And you will plainly see,

If we pull in strength and unison

We are sure of victory."

The place selected was the beach,
The ground was none too dry;

Two dozen craftsmen lined themselves
Before the public's eye.

They tugged and strained, as Pluvius
rained,

And each man gritted his teeth,
Resolved, by all the rules of sport

Their side would not be beat.

They pulled and heaved; they swayed
and weaved;

The ground was in a puddle;
Tenaciously they held their grips

In that enduring struggle.

Ere very long the tension strong

Was too much for the "brickies,"

As slowly they were losing ground

To the wielders of the "hickies."

Now Roche bethought, "'Twill be
dearly bought

If you win the cup this day,

For me, and my 'hotwire' boys

Decided that it must stay

And grace the wall of the Temple Hall

Down on First Avenue."

So they pulled their rivals all over the
field;

The sequel I'll leave to you.

MORAL

Keep your presence of mind
In a feat of this kind;

Remember the old sage's adage:

"If a crew you must train,

For a struggle or strain,

Just feed them on corn beef and
cabbage."

DIAMOND-SHAPED BUTTONS

To wear in your coat lapel,
carry the emblem and
insignia of the I. B. E. W.
Gold faced and hand-
somely enameled.....

\$2.50



BIRTHDAYS



Three years old:
Eager, glowing youth
—healthy and with a
zest for living and
playing. Old enough
to expect a birthday
cake and candles—and
no doubt a few pres-
ents. Old enough to
be included in the
Family Group Policy
that also celebrates its
third birthday this
month—a healthy,
growing youngster,
too, with a desire for a
lot of birthday presents
from the members of
the Brotherhood in
the way of applica-
tions covering fam-
ilies and relatives.



This friendly little
policy recommends it-
self to you because of
these reasons:

It is simple in form
—the applications are
easy to complete and
no medical examina-
tion is required—only
a statement of good
health.

It is sound in policy,
restricted by age lim-
its and eligible only to
families and relatives
of members of the
International Brother-
hood of Electrical
Workers.

It is moderate in
price, costing the
small sum of one
penny a day.

Celebrate all the birthdays in your family by enrolling in

THE FAMILY GROUP

All members of the Brotherhood should take advantage of this opportunity for good insurance at such low cost.

Use the application on the reverse page and write to us for additional applications and further details.

DO IT TODAY—TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE

APPLICATION FOR INSURANCE ELECTRICAL WORKERS' FAMILY POLICY

UNION COOPERATIVE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION,
Washington, D. C.

I certify that I am the of a member
(Give relationship)

of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union No., and I hereby apply for

units or \$ life insurance, and will pay \$ each
for same. (Year, half-year, quarter or month)

I certify that I have no impairment in my health or physical condition, and have no deformity, except

(State any exceptions)

Date of Birth Occupation Race
(Month-Day-Year)

Birthplace Sex

Beneficiary Relationship
(State full name and relationship of person to whom insurance is to be paid at your death)

Address of Beneficiary

My name is
(Print your name in full—not initials. If married use own name, such as "Helen Smith" and not husband's name, as "Mrs. James Smith")

My address is
(Street and number—City and State)

Date
(Signature in full)

QUESTIONS BELOW TO BE ANSWERED IF APPLICANT IS A MINOR

1. Father of Child.	Full Name	Birthplace
	Birth Date	Occupation
2. Mother of Child.	Full Name	Birthplace
	Birth Date	Occupation
3. Premiums will be paid by:	Name	
	Address	

(Signature of Parent or Guardian)

(The Union Cooperative Insurance Association reserves the right to reject any applicant for this insurance for any cause whatever and in case of rejection will return to the applicant the full amount of the payment forwarded with this application. The insurance will become effective on date issued by the Union Cooperative Insurance Association at its Home Office in Washington, D. C.)

NOTE: Age limits, 1 to 50 years. Issued in units of \$250.00. Limit of insurance for any one person: Ages 1-5, inclusive—\$250.00. Ages 6-50, inclusive—\$500.00.

Cost per unit: If paid annually, \$3.60; Semi-annually, \$1.80; Quarterly, 90 cents; Monthly, 30 cents or "Penny a Day."

Receipts issued for premium payments will show date next payment is due. No additional premium notices will be sent.

Make Checks Payable to
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD of ELECTRICAL WORKERS
G. M. Bugnizet

and Send with Application to International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Washington, D. C.

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Cut Here

Cut Here

GREEN ANSWERS FISHER ON WAGE-CUTS

(Continued from page 525)

unprecedented as to be objectionable, but the very fact that it was voluntary would add enormously in the influence on the depression. The mere announcement that you or a committee for the A. F. of L. recommended such a reduction as a safeguard against any impairment in the American standard of living would throw an electric thrill through the whole world similar to that which followed Mr. Hoover's proposal for a moratorium. But if the laboring man accepted the proposal, there would be no such recrudescence of pessimism as followed the President's announcement, which was due to the fact that France appeared unwilling to cooperate voluntarily.

For many years I have in published writings suggested the necessity for stable purchasing power of money, in the interests of all concerned, but particularly of labor, whose interests are of the greatest importance.

Very sincerely yours,

IRVING FISHER.

Washington, D. C.

September 1, 1931.

Professor Irving Fisher,

Department of Political Economy,

Yale University,

New Haven, Connecticut.

My Dear Sir:

Your letter dated August 21 has been received and read with very great interest. For obvious reasons such opinions as you express and such recommendations as you make regarding remedies which you recommend be applied to the distressing situation which prevails, are received with a feeling of sincere and deep appreciation. Notwithstanding the great value which I place upon your judgment and your recommendations, I find myself in definite conflict and in total disagreement with your logic, your conclusions and the remedy you propose for our industrial ills.

In your communication you state that "maintained money wage rates are doubtless responsible for much of this unemployment." You produce neither argument nor facts to substantiate this statement. If this allegation were true, why is it that unemployment continues in Germany and in England where money wage rates have been reduced to a bare subsistence level? Your theory has been accepted and applied in Germany and England and yet unemployment exists in those countries in a most aggravated form. In our own land, in many industrial communities, the wages of helpless workers have been reduced, and notwithstanding this fact they are suffering from unemployment more acute and distressing than existed before the earning power of these workers had been reduced. This is particularly true of the textile, bituminous coal and agricultural industry, as well as other miscellaneous trades.

The facts are against your contention. Reductions in wages have not stimu-

lated or increased buying power. You offer as an argument in support of your proposal that wages be reduced to stimulate buying power that commodity prices and the cost of living have decreased in round numbers 12 per cent. You conclude that this means that the buying power of each dollar earned in wages has increased 14 per cent. You offer these statistical facts as an argument in favor of the imposition of reductions in wages.

One of the chief causes of the present depression was the fact that the purchasing power of the masses of the people had not kept pace with their increasing power of production. Unemployment came upon us because the masses of the people could not buy back in volume the goods their skill, their training and their hands produced. Your proposal would aggravate one of the real causes of the existing industrial depression by reducing further the already limited purchasing power of the masses of the people.

How could we find a market for manufactured goods if buying power, which was already impaired and too low before the depression came, is lowered to a marked and still greater degree?

You have failed to take into account the increased productivity of individual workers when you refer to the fact that commodity prices have declined 12 per cent. The decline in these commodity prices has been practically offset by the increased efficiency and productivity of individual workers. In the decade ending 1929 the productivity of individual workers increased 54 per cent in manufacturing industries, while real wages increased only 24.3 per cent. Furthermore, Julius Klein, Assistant to Secretary Lamont, states that labor costs in manufacturing industries constituted 16 per cent of the total cost. This being true, a 10 per cent reduction in wages would reduce total production costs 1.6 per cent.

Points to 1921 Parallel

Let us make some comparison of the application of the old economic theory which you seem to follow that in periods of depression wages must be reduced, with the new modern economic viewpoint that prosperity depends upon the maintenance of a high mass purchasing power. We can do this by making comparison of the policy pursued during the depressed period of 1921 with the industrial policy pursued during the depression of 1930.

In 1930 business activity fell to 24.3 per cent below normal. In 1921 the lowest point was 18.4 per cent below normal. It is clear from a comparison of these figures that in 1930 the depression was more severe than in 1921. But in 1930 wage cuts were very few compared to wage cuts in 1921. In 1921 there were 92 wage cuts for every 100 firms reporting to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. In 1930 there were seven wage cuts for every 100 firms reporting. In 1930 workers in factories did not suffer as severely as in 1921. In 1921

the incomes of all workers declined on an average of 33 per cent from 1920. The trend of public opinion between the years 1921 and 1930 shows that there was a widespread realization of the fact that machinery and power had made imperatively necessary the development of a high and still higher purchasing power on the part of the consuming public if manufactured goods are to find a market which would distribute them and use them in a volume corresponding with the increased facilities of production.

There is another fact in connection with your proposal to which I respectfully call your attention. Price declines have been greatest in raw materials and least in finished products. There has been a decline of 33.6 per cent in raw materials, 29 per cent in semi-manufactured goods and 23.1 per cent in finished goods from the 1929 level. The difference in these declines represents considerable saving in cost to the manufacturer, for if he buys raw materials and manufactures semi-manufactured goods, his price for materials has declined more than his price for his product. If he buys semi-manufactured goods and manufactures finished products, the price he pays for materials has declined more than the price of his product.

What About Credit?

You emphasize what you allege is the high wage paid in the building industry. You allege that "The great slump in building and construction during 1930-1931 is largely due to high unit costs because money wage rates have not declined and the real costs of building have been increased." Here again, in my opinion your judgment and your conclusions are unsound and erroneous.

What are the facts regarding the building industry? Building costs in June, 1931, were considerably below the 1929 level. In brick construction with wood frame, they had declined 16.4 per cent; in brick construction with steel frame, 15.7 per cent and in reinforced concrete, 16.4 per cent. Notwithstanding this substantial decline in building costs, building and building construction is less. The facts are that the building decline is due very largely to overbuilding. In May, 1931, following a two-year period of building decline, Standard Statistics states, "We believe that vacancies in apartments average not far from 15 to 20 per cent." In offices, the National Association of Building Owners and Managers reports that in 41 cities on January 1, 1931, vacancies averaged 14.7 per cent.

This situation has led to a shrinkage in the value of real estate of from 10 to 50 per cent. Rents for dwelling houses have been decreased 8.1 per cent from October, 1929, to March, 1931. Real estate values have been greatly impaired. Much of this is directly traceable to speculation, to over-capitalization and to faulty financing. Building will not resume its normal trend until the fear and distrust which influence the public have been removed. The bonds

of real estate executed by many responsible bonding houses have so declined in value that the security of many of these bonding houses has been seriously impaired and the values of the securities have shrunk to a most serious point. How can the building industry be stimulated and how can building operations be carried on under such circumstances?

The real basis of our trouble regarding building operations is not traceable to the wages paid, which after all constitute but a small part of the cost of building, but is traceable largely to the fact that we have over-built, that speculation and faulty financing have brought financial distress and as a result of this and other corresponding causes the banks and the financiers of the nation will not now finance building operations. Labor is not to blame for this state of affairs.

Permit me to state in conclusion that while I entertain the most profound regard for your expressed opinion and judgment upon economic questions I can not follow your suggestion and recommendation that wages be reduced and that the officers of the American Federation of Labor make a dramatic announcement in favor of a reduction in wages.

Hits Rigid Standards

Labor has constantly fought against what we regard as a false economic basis, the establishment of wage rates upon a cost of living basis. If we would accept that point of view the door of hope would be closed. We could never build a standard of living higher or above a cost of living basis. We have accepted the other point of view, a new and more sound economic philosophy. We steadfastly maintain that our wage standards and our wage rates must be based upon the increasing power of individual production. We contend that wages must rise not altogether with the cost of living but corresponding with the increased efficiency and productivity of individual workers, made possible through the introduction of machinery and power.

For your information I enclose a copy of a statement issued by direction and authority of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor when it met on August 6. This represents the American Federation of Labor point of view regarding wages. The opinions and sentiments expressed in this statement reflect the mature, calm and deliberate judgment of the members of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor.

I regret I can not concur in your point of view nor accept your recommendation that American labor voluntarily accept a reduction in wages.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM GREEN,
President, American Federation of Labor.

Books are the true levelers. They give to all who faithfully use them the society, the spiritual presence, of the best and greatest of our race.—W. E. Channing.

LABOR AND NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PLANNING

(Continued from page 517)

National Civic Federation, though it makes provision for labor representatives, cannot be said to offer adequate labor representation. Its membership is composed of business men none too friendly to labor. Labor will have to struggle as it has always for the privilege of adequate representation. This struggle may stretch itself out over a period of 10 or 15 years.

Labor's best answer to the trend is the strengthening and widening of its own research agencies within the labor movement. With these agencies it can readily place under scrutiny reports made by any private or public planning commission, and determine whether they meet the situation fundamentally. There can be no centralized planning system on a scientific basis which does not undertake to answer the questions among others raised by this discussion.

WAGE CUTS AGGRAVATE DEPRESSION

(Continued from page 524)

tors of these frauds have not gone to jail as Ponzi did simply because they operated upon a scale large enough and impressive enough to be considered respectable, and, second, because many of these great firms have been engaged in the business of swindling the public long enough to have the sanctity of custom and convention behind them.

"These worthless stocks have depreciated to practically no value at all and the money of all the little speculators has been gathered into the pockets of the big promoters.

* * *

"Another kind of inflation, while not criminal, is nevertheless entirely evil and wholly unjust, not only to the investing public but to the laboring masses. This evil practice consists of the overcapitalization of a legitimate business.

"The extensive invention of labor-saving machinery has in the last few years greatly decreased the cost of production and increased the profits of enterprise.

"It is quite clearly evident that some part of the advantage of labor-saving machinery should go to the consumer in reduced prices for products, and some part of the advantage should go to the wage-earners in increased and shorter hours, and that under no standards of equity and national advantage should the capitalist class, meaning thereby the owners of enterprise and the employers of labor, absorb all the benefit of these increased profits.

"But these owners and employers have not only absorbed practically all the benefits of increased profits created by labor saving machinery and improvements in production, but they have devised a means of permanently depriving the working classes of their legitimate share in these benefits."

COUNCIL ENDORSES CO-OPERATIVE WORK PLAN

(Continued from page 527)

constitution, received. The records showed that Representative Vickers was qualified within the provisions of the constitution covering such matters, and it was regularly moved and seconded that the application be granted. Motion carried.

Appeal of Local Union No. 8, Toledo, Ohio, for three months' remission of per capita, was presented. Moved and seconded that three months' remission of per capita be granted to Local Union No. 8. Motion carried.

The chairman brought before the council the situation confronting our membership on account of the business depression, and outlined a plan for consideration and action, which possibly might provide greater working opportunity for the membership. After full consideration of the suggested plan, it was moved and seconded that it be submitted to the general membership, together with a recommendation urging that every effort be put forth to obtain the cooperation of the membership in placing the plan in operation. Motion carried.

The auditing committee tendered their report embodying the examination of the Brotherhood's auditor, W. B. Whitlock. Moved and seconded that the report be filed for permanent record. Motion carried.

The council proceeded to review the cases and actions thereon, that had been submitted for disposition by correspondence. Moved and seconded that all matters handled by correspondence be approved. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

M. P. GORDAN,
Secretary.

Lord, let me never tag a moral to a tale, nor tell a story without a meaning. Make me respect my material so much that I dare not slight my work.

Help me to deal very honestly with words and with people, for they are both alive. Show me that as in a river, so in a writing, clearness is the best quality, and a little that is pure is worth more than much that is mixed.

Teach me to see the local color without being blind to the inner light.

Give me an ideal that will stand the strain of weaving into human stuff on the loom of the real.

Keep me from caring more for books than for folks, for art than for life.

Steady me to do the full stint of work as well as I can; and when that is done, stop me; pay what wages Thou wilt, and help me to say, from a quiet heart, a grateful Amen.—Henry van Dyke.

The equal right of all men to the use of land is as clear as their equal right to breathe the air—it is a right proclaimed by the fact of their existence. For we can not suppose that some men have a right to be in this world, and others no right.—Henry George.

SLICHTER'S BOOK MARKS NEW ERA IN ECONOMICS

(Continued from page 515)

the more efficient and just working of production, distribution and consumption are "in the cards"—that is, they are warranted by present trends. They are not Utopian dreams, or fantastic predictions.

1. The Control of Population.

"As long as occupational groups which command the lowest income multiply the most rapidly, their earnings are bound to remain low."

2. The Provision of More Accurate Market Information.

"It is of basic importance, in improving the operation of free private enterprise, to make accurate and comprehensive market information instantly and easily available to all buyers and sellers."

3. Providing Industry With More Accurate Cost Accounting.

"Today we say to industry in effect: 'Lay off as many men as you desire. The cost of maintaining them will fall upon the community, not upon you.'"

4. Improving the Regulation of Public Utilities.

"Seven of the commissions (state utility commissions) have no authority to regulate light and power companies, seven need authority to control the accounts which they regulate, and nearly all need to be empowered to begin cases on their own initiative."

5. The Creation of More Public Utilities.

"There are several industries in which competition has failed as a regulative force no less than in railroad, electric or gas industry. The petroleum industry is a conspicuous example."

6. Making Economic Future Less a Gamble.

"The element of chance in the distribution of income can not be eliminated entirely, but it can be reduced, and the task of reducing it may well be regarded as a major function of the state, comparable with the suppression of violence and fraud and the confinement of cut-throats."

7. Greater Recognition of Needs in the Distribution of Income.

"The present generation cannot be said to have earned the income which it receives. That income is large because of countless preceding generations."

8. A Greater Voice for Labor in the Direction of Industry.

"In view of the encouragement which the state has given capital, it might seem fair for the government to lend a helping hand to labor organizations."

9. A Greater Voice for Consumers in the Director of Industry.

"The consumer alone in the world of organization is unorganized."

10. A Planned Economy.

"A National Economic Council is likely to be most useful in formulating long term plans and policies for industry and in dealing with problems which do not require quick decisions."

11. Making Management Neutral Instead of Partisan.

"They (managers) are employed by stockholders to promote the interests of stockholders."

Dr. Slichter is professor of business economics at Harvard University.

CAN'T TOTE DOLLAR BILLS IN BREECH-CLOTHS

(Continued from page 522)

to sell about 300,000,000 fine ounces of silver.

"SENATOR SWANSON. That pamphlet is a very interesting one and I have read it with a great deal of pleasure and profit. I suggest that we put it in the record.

"MR. DARLING. I should be honored to have it put into the record.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. Without objection at the end of your testimony this pamphlet will be printed as a part of your testimony.

"MR. DARLING. I am prepared to indorse every word of the pamphlet.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. The pamphlet is going in, of course, but the plan that you suggest in this pamphlet is a plan to stabilize the price of silver in India at or close to what its intended or parity exchange value was in India. Is that the sum and substance of it?

"MR. DARLING. It is a plan really to stabilize the world price of silver. The Indian question comes into it because of the ratio. I think it is of very great importance that there should be an honest silver coin circulating in India, and for that matter throughout Asia, a coin the intrinsic value of which would be equal to its face value. I regard that as having a very important psychological effect upon the peoples of Asia, and I believe it would do a great deal to stimulate and help trade with that great continent.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. What do you think has been the effect on trade and commerce throughout the world because of the depreciation in the value of silver or its exchange value with reference to gold during the last several months?

"MR. DARLING. Of course it has not been the sole factor in bringing about this period of world depression, but I cannot help thinking it has been a very important factor indeed.

"SENATOR PITTMAN. You have already stated in your pamphlet quite lucidly and emphatically the effect on the purchasing power of the masses in India. Is there any reason why it has not had the same effect on the purchasing power of other peoples of Asia who have conserved or hoarded silver?

"MR. DARLING. The effect on India has not really been so acute as the effect on China, because India, being on a gold exchange standard, has been able to maintain the outside value of the rupee at one shilling and sixpence, whereas in China, the Chinese currency, the tael, or the dollar, has depreciated practically with silver. India has been saved that depreciation in its outside

value, or external value of its rupee, but silver has affected India very materially I think in taking away a very large portion of the value of the large amount of silver ornaments which form a store of wealth for India, and especially for the people of India. Again, the peasant is very much affected as are all agriculturalists throughout the world, owing to the fall in the price of what he produces, and the peasant's margin, the margin between his livelihood and his poverty, is very, very small."

EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP DIMMED

(Continued from page 521)

the last five years have made gains; but it remains equally true that no small number have made losses, even disastrous ones. And in these tens of thousands of losses there have been many painful sacrifices for man, wife and children, even to tragedy itself. Here alone is reason enough for condemning promoted employee stock ownership. The greater number of those who go to war return, safe and sound. But we do not, on that account, proclaim warfare a safe and healthful activity.

"But quite certainly it means not taking work elsewhere at better pay. Equally clearly it means not striking. And, as a matter of fact, it usually means not being a member of a trade union and not pressing too hard for better terms of employment. The bonuses, therefore, are secured only by announcing what might be valuable advantages.

"Many of the most relevant data would have to be searched out in laborious ways, since some of the companies of every rank are unwilling to reveal them, most unwilling of all to tell the prices at which their successive offerings were made in the days before the press thought it worth while to catch them currently and print them as news. Even in well-known companies, whose dividend records and market courses are an open book, no closely accurate determinations of gains or losses are possible without a full knowledge and careful balancing of subscription dates and prices, dates and rates of instalments, interest charges as well as dividends, and all of the other elements of costs and carrying charges."

S. Palmer Harman, a financial writer, says (Nation, September 23):

"If the index of stock prices compiled by the New York Times be accepted as an epitome of stock values, all the gains of the great bull market since 1926 have now disappeared. The composite price of the 50 stocks included in the index has dipped below the point at which it stood five and a half years ago. Of more immediate significance, from the Wall Street point of view, is the fact that the heavy selling which occurred last week carried the average below the previous low point of this year, touched on June 2, and thus established a new 'bottom'."

Ignorance is the night of the mind, but a night without moon or star.—Confucius.

WOMAN'S WORK

(Continued from page 530)

at the present low costs and enjoy them ourselves? Not only are building costs lower than in years, but both contractors and men have time to give attention to small jobs.

There are many arguments that may be advanced to influence people to improve their homes and you, no doubt, can think of plenty. Most people have a sympathetic feeling toward the unemployed and will readily agree that it is better to furnish work for them than to give charity. This is their opportunity to give employment, and at the same time to make a valuable investment in their own homes. Where cash is not available, financing the cost of improvements may be arranged.

Talk to your friends, get the names of those in need of wiring improvements (send the names to the local chairman of the Co-operative Work Plan), arouse interest and pave the way for the union salesman. This drive is a big thing for electrical workers and union electrical contractors. Help us to put it over!

RADIO

(Continued from page 533)

ily as local broadcast signals. Due to the peculiar skipping effect of short-wave signals, it is always a question as to whether one is located at the proper distance from the short-wave transmitter, for a given frequency or wave length, and time of the day. Thus the signals from 15 to 30 meters are decidedly daytime signals, so far as overseas or long-distance reception is concerned. Once it gets night at the receiving end, these short-wave signals are practically blotted out. On the other hand, the signals from 80 meters on up are increasingly stronger by nightfall, and cover great distances. The short-wave enthusiast must come to know when to switch from one band to another, in tuning in short-wave signals.

The 40-meter band is another radio amateur's paradise, especially for long-distance communication on dot-dash. There is also a 20-meter band for amateur communications.

Fortunately, there is ample choice of equipment available for handling short-wave signals. Today there are complete short-wave receivers available, ranging from simple four-tube sets to sets with as many as 10 tubes. Most short-wave sets are provided with interchangeable plug-in coils, so as to permit of tuning in any given band, even including the broadcast band. Thus the sets are universal in character, serving the usual broadcast function for ordinary entertainment, while including the short-wave thrills when desired.

With the super-heterodyne patent rights made available to most of the leading set manufacturers through an R. C. A. licensing agreement, the short-wave receiving equipment is greatly improved. Enormous radio-frequency amplification, ideal selectivity and a minimum of adjustably tuned circuits are the result of the super-heterodyne short-wave receiver.

Translators Appear

A most interesting development is the super-heterodyne adapter, which converts any standard tuned r. f. broadcast receiver into an ideal short-wave receiver. The

adapter comprises a frequency-converting arrangement whereby the intercepted short-wave signal is translated into a frequency or wave length that falls within the broadcast band, so that the signal may be handled by the standard broadcast receiver in the usual way. An enormous amplification is secured in this manner, since the receiver's r. f. amplifier, detector and audio amplifier are employed, with the reproduction issuing from the loudspeaker. It is necessary, obviously, to tune the broadcast receiver to some frequency or wave length that is free or relatively free from a broadcast signal, so that there will be no interference with the converted short-wave signals.

Certainly the great mystery and black magic that surrounded the short-wave reception art has been dispelled of late. It is becoming increasingly common to find a short-wave receiver in the home of the ardent radio fan. The super-heterodyne converter or adapter, placed on the cabinet of the usual broadcast receiver, means a ten-fold increase in the pleasure that may be derived, with but a small increase in the investment.

SELLING A REAL HOUSEWIRING JOB

(Continued from page 513)

home; they do not call for the three-way switches in the basement you like so well; nor do they call for the switching arrangement of your present dining room, or that light over your bed, or

that swell light we put in the bathroom for you for shaving.

"Now, the specifications you mentioned a while ago call for standard material; that is, securities within the law, but my own specifications for your job call for gilt-edged securities exclusively. I propose to install a G-E wiring system, use G-E wiring materials exclusively—so that both you and I can be proud of the job."

As I was talking to him I was pointing out on his own plan where all my extra outlets were located, and explained to him that I had done this for his benefit, and not in order to have to put in a higher figure and take a chance of losing his job.

Well, to make a long story short, he invited me over to his home for that same evening, and when at 10:30 that night he and his wife and I got through, we had nine more outlets than I had figured in the first place.

When I left the house I had another wiring system contract signed up and in my pocket.

We are also going to furnish all the lighting fixtures—I saw to that before leaving. Their selection was left entirely to the Mrs., and I am already studying up on period styles. When he kicks about the bill, I am going to tell him, "Well, they have to pass inspection."

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Carbon for receipt books	.05	Receipt Book, Miscellaneous (750 receipts)	4.80
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ADDRESS, G. M. BUGNIAZET, I. S.

LOCAL UNION OFFICIAL RECEIPTS FROM AUGUST 11 TO SEPTEMBER 10, 1931

L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS
I. O.	29451 80317	60	230066 230155	159	25534 25583	269	12007 12008	406	93394 93416
1	963782 963783	62	664063 664067	159	195453	275	50116 50133	407	731976 731981
1	2577 2581	64	43305 43430	161	12753 12766	275	32282 32285	408	214496 214500
1	416251 416408	64	122257	163	12924 12929	276	354593 354626	408	399751 399827
1	194798 195000	64	62746 62806	163	175793 175882	278	410747 410756	409	201618 201698
1	132836 132841	64	6147 6160	164	8881 8932	278	28802	410	606409 606413
2	144766 144776	65	340591 340800	164	42346 42404	281	402007 402018	411	62133 62139
2	336221 336380	66	34532	164	182771 183000	281	701685 701693	413	136923 136988
3	A-J, 8774-8800	66	281761 281990	164	319501 319658	284	4356 4385	413	41101
3	A-J, 8807-12562	67	30163 30176	165	654665 654671	284	198003 198008	415	52801 52810
3	A-J, 12601-12745	68	146301 146323	167	628866 628867	285	38815 38828	416	91004 91015
3	A-J, 12801-12824	68	292686 292785	169	673917 673924	286	639424 639431	417	279069 279088
3	A-2-H, 16-17	68	59417	173	23249 23263	286	219451	417	147909 147911
3	A-3-H, 136-150	69	532768 532771	175	868821 868846	290	5779 5785	418	280080 280109
3	A-4-H, 2181, 2200	70	659105 659112	175	18647 18654	291	335300 335324	421	187791 187820
3	A-4-H, 2271-2894	73	288202 288264	177	67508 67547	292	261906 262135	426	700533 700539
3	A-4-H, 3001-3412	73	15907	177	6331 6332	293	72001 72011	428	549461 549488
3	B-H, 15-19	76	104101 104170	178	18966 18971	296	18671 18698	429	19944 19980
3	B-J, 162-238	77	325082 325285	180	164732 164762	298	231325 231335	429	191733 191735
3	C-H, 35-52	77	24666 24667	181	194945 194997	298	6316 6326	430	258244 258256
3	C-J, 364-575	79	243296 243377	183	261769 261780	300	966841 966844	431	192831 192843
3	O-A, 645-839	80	871093 871100	184	444322 444330	301	273781 273787	434	662276 662285
3	X-G, 2611-2800	80	68701 68730	185	220385 220440	302	1205 1210	435	67381 67490
3	X-G, 2802-4108	81	70511	186	34553 34558	302	703014 703038	435	130529 130530
4	39638 39650	81	180446 180506	187	46531 46555	302	24908 24908	440	46836 46849
5	369251 370500	82	269366 269590	188	432445 432449	302	25863 25865	440	217352
6	208271 208500	83	20803 20813	190	34896 34900	303	528272 528276	441	703658 703690
6	141051 141056	83	326725 326700	190	34901 34910	305	27505 27525	443	680426 680431
6	330751 330783	83	404251 404288	191	260031 260040	307	680759 680770	444	285072 285090
7	111391 111502	84	126175 126315	193	134823 134901	308	158924 158951	446	36155 36170
7	14077 14078	86	389251 389308	193	83624 83825	308	87901 87910	449	24412 24434
8	173612 173666	86	272091 272250	193	147619 147624	311	265708 265760	456	166817 166825
10	20787 20804	86	7870 7887	194	15 28	312	63767 63816	458	45981 46003
11	196662 196690	86	44569 44688	194	260467 260606	313	21156 21234	461	102232 102312
11	352901 353200	87	679234 679241	194	24920 24923	316	705292 705299	464	40829 40835
11	80730	88	720952 720970	195	298100 298181	317	112754 112774	465	336866 336948
12	800947 800958	90	256765 256872	196	298584 298611	318	81911 81911	466	11379 11400
14	36961 36979	93	934977 934980	196	131005 131088	318	61931 61964	466	71101 71103
15	863897 863902	95	558626 558636	197	583737 583746	319	114467 114480	468	666287 666291
16	617577 617586	96	187178 187248	200	27066 27166	321	706939 706955	470	655020 655038
18	14357 14384	96	12854 12885	201	18037 18041	322	854707 854715	471	7113 7131
18	286806 287153	99	133919 134073	203	630604 630611	324	43618 43633	474	240346 240426
18	24380 24384	101	284282 284285	204	237142 237196	325	245403 245445	477	29648 29677
20	192124 192125	103	15761 15814	205	174189 174201	328	71401 71401	479	669907 669933
20	184856 184914	103	145643 146250	208	191591 191617	328	19461 19500	481	400612 400727
20	7591	103	126496 126505	208	199501 199518	329	22449 22472	481	34209 34212
21	253542 253566	103	31523 31527	209	206696 206727	329	222451 222451	482	615566 615569
22	107951 108000	103	905601 906070	210	183451 183537	332	882183 882244	483	213198 213303
23	198901 199140	104	175161 175358	211	41551 41580	332	28506 28506	488	30787 30804
23	67201 67500	105	136491 136500	211	133211 133230	333	248503 248503	488	144751 144754
23	373501 373508	105	350251 350287	211	12310 12310	334	691253 691257	488	115499 115500
26	162670 162745	105	69911 69912	213	45534 45584	335	622596 622615	490	39930 39933
26	68000 68270	106	14997 15000	213	149513 149919	338	703857 703865	492	166066 166170
26	195971 196007	106	187526 187567	213	181269 181271	339	185493 185550	493	666627 666627
27	869158 869172	106	71701 71747	214	32188 32198	340	44634 44691	494	201311 201329
30	602484 602499	107	5744 5766	214	414751 414791	341	283554 283568	494	401251 401340
31	150699 150718	108	117224 117248	214	231663 231750	342	589364 589373	494	267901 268500
32	597044 597057	109	41154 41165	214	45050 45056	343	648495 648500	494	17440 17457
33	63004 63009	110	325788 325917	215	602344 602372	343	54301 54301	497	204104 204113
34	60207 60229	111	259282 259290	219	455843 455857	344	23515 23526	501	306910 306986
34	195231 195280	111	200251	222	860938 860950	345	655600 655605	501	95926 96000
35	110056 110165	113	28070 28105	223	27678 27719	347	192616 192680	501	94501 94606
35	33049 33100	113	27908 27913	224	178851 178895	348	328661 328809	501	70926 70948
36	50401 50420	114	48005 48012	225	627227 627247	348	123014 123016	502	674978 675000
37	105551 105583	115	667264 667287	225	85201 85201	349	184273 184385	504	793515 793530
38	830979 831150	116	18111 18134	226	232713 232750	349	771 805	508	934779 934811
38	4451 4483	117	37029 37050	228	181082 181147	350	1001 1009	510	704251 704261
39	236765 236964	119	700239 700242	229	654436 654443	351	197372 197381	515	631535 631543
40	30633 30750	120	224991 225000	230	94260 94314	352	153253 153280	516	14266 14286
40	342338 342585	120	318751 318757	231	776317 776328	354	165419 165437	516	68104 68104
40	133501 133607	121	654046 654051	232	43885 43907	355	638601 638605	517	695475 695485
40	23169 23179	122	197046 197125	233	18468 18516	356	653241 653250	520	23857 23911
41	267076 267182	125	228742 228750	239	678540 678544	357	53401 53436	520	152434 152439
41	72601 72628	125	338251 338706	240	857833 857843	357	221851 221869	522	904812 904842
42	629189 629197	125	29718 29719	241	113349 113372	363	106104 106114	523	33425 33439
43	187051 187170	129	198601 198608	242	730456 730462	365	822344 822347	525	70201 70215
44	61228 61243	129	852716 852743	243	138861 138867	366	635105 635111	525	679699 679700
45	12983 12992	130	145509 145511	244	704391 704393	368	259683 259698	526	47130 47395
46	974891 974930	130	290221 290438	245	137528 137600	369	163374 163409	527	27309 27310
46	257521 257830	130	89469 89566	246	190077 190103	370	649543 649548	527	28906 28924
47	45053 45074	131	773287 773322	246	194722 194729	372	55205 55206	527	46501 46505
48	4914	131	19204 19218	247	318024 318045	372	33284 33300	528	103215 103258
48	19041 19055	132	691804 691807	248	29241 29257	372	48601 48614	528	44430 44430
48	229371 229500	133	316402 316421	248	143111	373	429410 429422	529	47714 47727
48	323251 323290	135	859555 859593	250	616290 616302	376	44133 44141	532	322551 322558
50	45712 45755	138	11118 11119	251	48912 48915	377	106898 106975	532	43807 43813
51	923566 923600	138	268560 268590	252	149691 149715	379	614993 615000	535	333841 333892
52	204324 204435	139	249075 249105	254	43270 43280	379	51301 51305	536	630013 630024
52	103656 103658	141	16399 16418	255	56591 56597	380	666050 666056	537	169033 169050
52	16901 16951	143	301498 301520	256	198392 198407	382	8695 8695	538	94754 94778
52	102751 108000	145	230680 230761	256	300853 300879	382	379501 379522	538	26428 26428
53	402839 402904	145	131319 131382	257	260351 260368	384	28250 28255	539	908111 908120
53	202357 202360	146	988795 988800	258	63916 63921	387	42937 42963	544	196108 196153
54	345022 345026	150	700959 700995	259	130962 131017	389	682573 682585		

L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS	L. U.	NUMBERS
555	899127	899148	670	175823	175825	865	10215	10218	119-700238.
557	692579	692588	673	13912	13926	869	546716	546727	130-145508.
558	621463	621472	677	122673	122701	870	202781	202806	145-230751-760.
559	610367	610378	679	650155	650162	873	364336	364348	167-628862-865.
560	5166	5187	683	16541		874	664270	664281	229-654437.
560	22520	22522	683	60656	60694	875	625334	625342	293-600699-700.
561	66702		684	538843	538855	885	818	861	298-6315, 6318, 6320,
561	246591	246777	685	41518	41543	888	280615	280633	6323.
565	902936	902956	686	177017	177026	890	706415	706417	332-882233-240.
566	65411	65416	688	18610	18620	892	35524	35542	357-53434-53435.
567	10541	10550	694	315897	315966	900	597739	597743	382-8694.
567	119149	119205	695	717311	717327	902	31785	31800	494-209312-328.
568	54045	54049	699	42037	42052	902	54901	54921	526-47141-47394.
568	304531	304677	702	333042	333261	907	61517	61522	573-658798-804.
570	16066	16078	704	212512	212550	912	305313	305410	580-642800.
571	32476	32487	707	195946	195960	914	169684	169727	607-85806.
571	53101	53102	710	611463	611481	915	971386	971390	629-210301.
572	263214	263223	711	291984	292061	918	21924	21937	660-20369, 20372, 65724.
573	658805	658811	712	497944	497964	919	59332	59333	774-77703.
574	28208	28209	712	62704	62706	922	21643	21648	817-270687-690.
574	332255	332341	713	105051	105315	937	15490	15505	1047-169063-064.
475	24012		713	3075	3078	940	669664	669672	
575	9796	9819	713	61151	61157	953	36395	36412	
577	33698	33709	716	135751	135840	956	632952	632956	
580	52501	52508	716	320341	320600	958	657320	657327	
583	30765	30801	716	1751	1800	963	38661	38666	
584	202104	202160	717	250600	250659	968	9337	9342	
584	57918	58003	717	9693	9696	969	634195	634202	
585	721387	721403	719	63384	63400	970	694537	694538	
586	683530	683570	722	16035	16047	971	443112	443115	
586	84611	84614	723	278538	278587	972	665141	665147	
588	179481	179516	728	66005	66014	978	326208	326222	
591	695751	695765	731	460368	460386	991	677123	677133	
592	263751	263752	732	125878	125915	995	41795	41822	
593	2811	2820	734	360751	360861	996	626452	626458	
594	691624	691638	734	82804		996	87307	87313	
595	197952	198167	734	182235	182250	996	197701	197713	
595	23448	23463	735	663201	663205	1002	337543	337573	
596	440549	440550	735	670996	671000	1025	973103	973109	
598	664513	664515	757	32037	32054	1029	789890	789911	
599	924725	924743	759	262557	262563	1029	17101		
600	1618	1624	760	603432	603449	1032	768080	768096	
601	37965	37987	762	9222	9245	1035	614189	614198	
601	148535	148541	762	9005		1036	446067	446077	
602	27784	27820	763	26268	26283	1037	129800	129803	
602	42308		765	38119	38123	1037	276561	276690	
602	20714	20722	770	308316	308340	1047	169029	169065	
603	620827	620836	770	81603	81606	1054	37248	37253	
607	85801	85808	774	799716	799741	1057	482444	482461	
607	600948	600957	774	77704		1072	858601	858609	
611	142760	142785	784	32961	32991	1086	341257	341284	
617	100091	100125	787	916302	916312	1087	19546	19552	
619	675450	675456	792	707138	707146	1087	89101		
622	584662	584667	792	220051		1091	40596	40605	
623	90253	90283	794	39609	39612	1095	4149	4180	
625	36795	36820	794	192872	192949	1099	787587	787599	
625	60312		794	148882	148888	1101	341669	341679	
629	210278	210325	798	954594	954607	1108	22988	23008	
630	334387	334409	802	674856	674867	1131	38461	38469	
631	945050	945076	811	64530	64533	1141	155690	156171	
631	7815		817	370501	370690	1141	44931	44995	
632	678476	678491	817	270426	270750	1144	533953	533960	
636	123377	123408	817	127576	127595	1147	57001	57002	
640	334561	334599	818	694666	694673	1147	31117	31143	
642	142038	142058	819	656856	656865	1147	155102	155103	
648	14404	14405	820	50493	50504	1151	85526	85529	
648	149732	149749	832	677976	677981	1154	40319	40349	
648	107695	107763	838	681191	681200	1154	309938	309940	
649	217231	217270	838	69601	69617	1156	369001	369032	
654	2476	2480	840	664841	664850	1156	131958	132000	
655	13301	13308	842	624896	624902				
656	17521	17537	849	623518	623531				
660	20365	20400	850	746204	746210				
660	65701	65754	854	205085	205106				
661	205777	205797	855	4087	4098				
664	10921	10951	855	153307					
665	143	168	857	683761	683770				
666	106252	106307	858	139837	139868				
666	65117	65123	862	11886	11906				
667	51901	51909	863	46264	46279				
669	241556	241580	865	266311	266403				

VOID

1-194970, 416335.	
2-144766-770.	
3-A-J, 9022, 9052, 9087, 9169, 9211, 9227, 9372, 9468, 9792, 9931, 9951, 9971, 10091, 10179, 10227, 10429, 10501, 10557, 10610, 10796, 10990, 11236, 11351, 11591, 11627, 11645, 11648, 11693, 11696, 11736, 11749, 12308, 12311, 12346, 12390, 12447, 12466.	
3-A-B-H, 136, A-4-H, 2184, 2590-2592, 2630, 2664, 2675, 2776, 3228, 3309, 3340, 3411.	
3-C-H, 36, 43, C-J, 378, 383, 396, 405, 434, 443, 563, O-A-665, 720, 751, X-G, 2635, 2688, 2689, 2694, 2716, 2720, 2722, 2733, 2821, 2860, 2915, 3008, 3095, 3183, 3339, 3410, 3423, 3462, 3519, 3610, 3632, 3705, 3715, 4070, 4072-4078, 4081-4086, 4088, 4090-4091, 4093, 4095, 4097, 4099, 4107.	
8-173612.	
11-196667, 352997, 353094.	
18-286970, 287061.	
20-184866.	
23-67298.	
26-195965, 948.	
35-33058-33059.	
38-831040, 071.	
40-23169, 23171.	
43-187099, 146.	
46-974902, 906-907, 917.	
48-229466, 480, 323273.	
51-923588.	
52-103262, 103657, 796.	

MISSING

41-72602-72604, 72606-72607, 72609-72611, 72613-72617, 72618, 72620-72622, 72625.	
56-13642-13650.	
103-15758-15760.	

BLANK

157-649900.	
211-41580.	
321-706925, 955.	
325-245445.	

PREVIOUSLY LISTED VOID-NOT VOID

345-137409.	
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BOULDER DAM RUNS USUAL OPEN-SHOP COURSE

(Continued from page 516)

organized movement; that neither the I. W. W. nor any other group or organization had anything to do with it, but that it was a spontaneous revulsion on the part of the 125 miners, etc., against unfair and abominable working conditions, and because of pure and unadulterated exploitation of the men, the company taking advantage of the distressed condition of unemployment.

"At this period I want to relate the experience of a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers who is conceded to be one of the most efficient electrical workers on the Hoover Dam project, and who has personally complained to me: That the

trucks of the Six Companies would pick him up at 6:15 a. m. in the bunkhouse; go to the warehouse, load material and arrive on the job at 7:30 a. m. at which time the day's work would start. After having worked eight hours, the delivery of the men to their respective bunk houses would take enough time to make up a total of 11 hours from bunkhouse to bunkhouse, for which he received the munificent sum of \$6 for the actual eight hours on the job, with \$1.60 taken out for subsistence and hospital fee. This same man, as a result of overwork and the extreme heat, became unconscious on July 30, at which time Mr. Midau, foreman in charge, revived him by pouring water on him, and then discharged him on the following Saturday, despite the fact that he was the oldest man in point

of service on the job. This dismissal was fortunate, however, for our member, because on the following day the Reclamation Service employed him at a rate of 50c per day more than the Six Companies was paying him."

SKILL OF MEMBERS SOLVES VEXING PROBLEM

(Continued from page 526)

in "fishing" the home runs "incoming lines" or in pulling the wire.

We have also found this pipe tool invaluable in entering conduits from a concrete ceiling to a dropped metal lath ceiling; also in bending conduit for outlets placed in the soffit of a beam.

The net result showed a real saving, a superior piece of construction and an excellent quality of workmanship.

Life's Greatest Lesson



¶ Bitter gall of hardship has taught human beings a lesson—the simplest lesson in human relations—the hardest to learn—co-operation.

¶ Against all disasters—fire and flood—war and pestilence, hunger and want—men can interpose only one aid—co-operation.

¶ Long ago those who work have learned the potent art of working and sharing together. A labor union is a venture in co-operation.

¶ Now—during the plague of unemployment and world depression, no substitute for co-operation has been discovered. No relief has come through any other source.

¶ Labor unions have risen manfully to beat back hunger, despair and want. The old fires of idealism flare anew. Men know once again what “union” really means.

¶ Now as the final test comes with the approaching winter—let unionists bear in mind that the full value has not been wrung out of co-operation. Much yet can be won from team-play to blast the woes of business disaster.

¶ Let men hitch up their worn trousers, draw their belts a little tighter, and prove again that the union can beat the panic.

Electrical Workers Journal

AN EMPLOYER'S PRAYER

"**L**ORD, I want to keep the commandment. It was indicated in the beginning that thy approval went with those who toiled, earning the bread they ate. I want to be friendly with you, too.

"I now know that work is life. I am an employer of men, and I have seen a man's heart break because he could find no work to do. He was a strong man, too, with capable hands, a clear brain, and willing to do the utmost that could be required of flesh and blood. He came to my foreman, abjecting himself as no free man should ever do, and praying that he might show how fine and able he was.

"I despised him, because for years I have not measured men eye to eye and soul to soul. My business gives me leisure to go where I want to, and so I have grown out of touch with real life—imagining myself a successful man. My workers have kept the wheels turning; only the profits concerned me. This man asked to serve me, was refused, and turned away with pale face and quivering lips.

"That set me thinking: Why should a strong man cry because he can not work? I sent for him. He cried because if he did not work that day hunger would that night stand beside the beds of those to whom God had given him the right to be husband and father. That is a man's right, and I cherish it for myself; and if I and others like me gave others what we ask for ourselves, no one in the image of God need ever be broken at the wheel of life or cringe when he asked for work.

"I used to say simple little prayers of faith, Lord, but I have almost forgotten how to pray. I am trying now—telling you that I am sorry that I have benefited at the expense of other men—and of women and babes, too. I want to do something and to give every man his chance. Perhaps then there will be broken unto me that bread of life without which I have been told I will always go hungry. I wish it so, Lord.

"Amen!"

—*Good Housekeeping for October, 1914.*

Reprinted September, 1931.